

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ringel, Aaron  
**Sent:** Thur 2/8/2018 12:32:20 AM  
**Subject:** Re: E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Thanks, **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2018, at 7:25 PM, Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

All – see below from ogc/foia – documents have not been released under foia. That said, **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**  
**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** Thanks ng

# Attorney Client / Ex. 5

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 07, 2018 10:44 AM  
**To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Fine with me, but looping in Nancy and Jahan to confirm.

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**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Liz/Troy,

Ranking Member Pallone asked for a copy of the contract with Definers along with the scope of work in his questions for the record after the Administrators 12/7 hearing (question/response below). Have we provided this elsewhere or has it been released as part of a FOIA possibly? **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**  
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**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** Thoughts?

33. PALLONE: Please provide a copy of the contract between EPA and Definers Corp. including any statement of work.

**Response:**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Aaron E. Ringel**

*Deputy Associate Administrator*

*Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations*

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

W: 202.564.4373

[Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov](mailto:Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov)

**To:** Biesecker, Michael[MBiesecker@ap.org]; Pace, Julie[JPace@ap.org]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Mon 12/18/2017 10:10:11 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Julie and Michael -

Adding Julie Pace, again. We have answered your questions with the following on-the-record statements.

**“A similar security sweep was done for EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

**“Administrator Pruitt has received an unprecedented amount of threats against him and while the Associated Press attempts to trivialize his safety, there is nothing nefarious about security decisions made by EPA’s Protective Service Detail.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

**“Please ask your source, who apparently has access to the database of EPA’s expenditures.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

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**From:** Biesecker, Michael [mailto:MBiesecker@ap.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 5:05 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Julie and Michael -

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**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Julie and Michael -

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Also, just to clarify, is it you on-the-record contention that Pruitt in no way requested the bug sweep, but that this was an independent decision made solely by the EPA Protective Service Detail? Can you say concretely whether the administrator was even aware of the decision?

Thanks,

Michael

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Julie and Michael – below are the answers in bold.

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Jahan,

Could you please clarify how electronic surveillance would potentially imperil Administrator Pruitt's physical security?

**"Administrator Pruitt has received an unprecedented amount of threats against him and while the Associated Press attempts to trivialize his safety, there is nothing nefarious about security decisions made by EPA's Protective Service Detail."** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

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**"Please ask your source, who apparently has access to the database of EPA's expenditures."** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

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Michael

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**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Julie and Michael -

Below are our on-the-record responses in bold that you can attribute to me.

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**Subject:** Bug sweeping, biometric locks

Liz, Jahan,

AP will be publishing a story about \$3,000 in taxpayer funds expended in April for a contractor to sweep Administrator Pruitt's office for electronic listening devices. We will also be reporting on spending to install biometric locks in his suite.

When coupled with the previously reported purchase of the privacy booth, it raises questions about why Pruitt feels the need to invest in counter-surveillance measures that none of his predecessors felt were necessary. EPA headquarters is a secure building with armed security and metal detectors at the entrances. Pruitt also has his personal security detail. Is the administrator concerned about the potential for electronic spying against him by the agency's own employees?

**"Administrator Pruitt has received an unprecedented amount of threats against him and while the Associated Press attempts to trivialize his safety, there is nothing nefarious about security decisions made by EPA's Protective Service Detail."** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

As part of the same story, we will also be mentioning the \$120,000 Definers contract and the FOIAs filed by America Rising targeted at EPA employees viewed as potentially disloyal to the Trump administration. Please provide any comment you have on those issues.

**"Definers was awarded the contract to do our press clips at a rate that is \$87,000 cheaper than our previous vendor and they are providing no other services. This year, EPA has received over 10,000 public information requests from**



journalists and individuals across the political spectrum and we're responding to them in a manner that is fair and efficient. If you have questions regarding how Definers operates, we encourage you to contact them.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

Thanks,

Michael



## ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Michael Biesecker**

Reporter

[mbiesecker@ap.org](mailto:mbiesecker@ap.org)

Twitter: @mbieseck

[Public Key](#)

1100 13 St. NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005-4076

T 202-641-9445

M Personal Phone / Ex. 6

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“There are only two forces that can carry light to all corners of the globe – the sun in the heavens and The Associated Press down here.” -- Mark Twain, 1906

“I go with Custer and will be at the death.” – AP reporter Mark Kellogg’s final dispatch from the Battle of the Little Bighorn, 1876

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**To:** Aarons, Kyle[Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Richardson, RobinH[Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Moody, Christina[Moody.Christina@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ringel, Aaron  
**Sent:** Thur 1/4/2018 5:39:43 PM  
**Subject:** Re: EPA contract documentation request

Looping in Christina as well.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 4, 2018, at 12:38 PM, Aarons, Kyle <Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**  
**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

-Kyle

Kyle Aarons  
Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
202-564-7351

---

**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 03, 2018 2:52 PM  
**To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Aarons, Kyle <Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: EPA contract documentation request

---

**From:** Seiger, Ryan [mailto:Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:09 PM  
**To:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Brain, Michael <Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov>; McCarragher, Ward <Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov>; Dedrick, Kathy <Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA contract documentation request

Aaron and Troy:

Per your request, enclosed is a formal request letter from Ranking Member DeFazio seeing additional information on the process that EPA followed in executing its contract with Definers for news analysis and brief service. A hard copy is being mailed today as well.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Ryan C. Seiger  
Staff Director/Senior Counsel  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
505 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-0060

---

**From:** Lyons, Troy [mailto:lyons.troy@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 5:37 PM

**To:** Seiger, Ryan <[Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov)>

**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <[ringel.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:ringel.aaron@epa.gov)>; Brain, Michael <[Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov](mailto:Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov)>; McCarragher, Ward <[Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov)>; Dedrick, Kathy <[Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov](mailto:Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: EPA contract documentation request

Ryan:

Formal inquiries help us keep track of the numerous inquiries we receive from both the majority and the minority. We ask for a formal submission for tracking purposes as the inquiry will be assigned to the appropriate staffer. Also, formal requests help us process these requests in the order in which they are received.

We will continue to respond to requests such as TA and others requests through simple emails but ask oversight requests

I don't think Aaron's note implied you all do not have oversight authority, but with energy and commerce being our main committee of jurisdiction we want to ensure they are looped in as they are likely working on a similar request.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 18, 2017, at 4:45 PM, Seiger, Ryan <[Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov)> wrote:

Aaron:

On your response to my information request, a few questions...first, it is now EPA policy that routine oversight requests from Committee staff need now be formal letter requests from the Members? Also, is this request for a letter coming from OCIR or from the agency at large?

Can you also provide me with a basis for your claim that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure does not have independent oversight jurisdiction over EPA?

Finally, on these apparent new rules, do they apply both to the T and I majority and the minority? Are there any other oversight processes that have been put in place this year that we need to be aware of?

Ryan C. Seiger

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment

(202) 225-0060

On Dec 18, 2017, at 2:42 PM, Ringel, Aaron <[ringel.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:ringel.aaron@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hey Ryan, could you please put your request in an official letter? Additionally, have you coordinated with E&C on this? I believe EPA oversight resides within their committee's jurisdiction.

Best,

-Aaron

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
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# Attorney Client / Ex. 5

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**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
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**Response:** **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**  
**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Aaron E. Ringel**  
*Deputy Associate Administrator*  
*Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations*  
*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

W: 202.564.4373  
[Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov](mailto:Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov)

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Biesecker, Michael  
**Sent:** Mon 12/18/2017 10:05:23 PM  
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ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Michael Biesecker**  
Reporter  
[mbiesecker@ap.org](mailto:mbiesecker@ap.org)  
Twitter: @mbieseck

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**From:** Aarons, Kyle  
**Sent:** Thur 1/4/2018 5:38:48 PM  
**Subject:** RE: EPA contract documentation request

Thanks. We've been working with Nancy on a response to EPW on this topic, **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

-Kyle

Kyle Aarons  
Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
202-564-7351

---

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**To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Aarons, Kyle <Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: EPA contract documentation request

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**Cc:** Brain, Michael <Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov>; McCarragher, Ward <Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov>; Dedrick, Kathy <Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov>  
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Ryan C. Seiger  
Staff Director/Senior Counsel  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
505 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-0060

---

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**To:** Seiger, Ryan <Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov>  
**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Brain, Michael <Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov>; McCarragher, Ward <Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov>; Dedrick, Kathy <Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov>  
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Can you also provide me with a basis for your claim that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure does not have independent oversight jurisdiction over EPA?

Finally, on these apparent new rules, do they apply both to the T and I majority and the minority? Are there any other oversight processes that have been put in place this year that we need to be aware of?

Ryan C. Seiger

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment

(202) 225-0060

On Dec 18, 2017, at 2:42 PM, Ringel, Aaron <[ringel.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:ringel.aaron@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hey Ryan, could you please put your request in an official letter? Additionally, have you coordinated with E&C on this? I believe EPA oversight resides within their committee's jurisdiction.

Best,

-Aaron

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wed 2/7/2018 3:45:05 PM  
**Subject:** RE: E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

It hasn't been released but Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

---

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 10:44 AM  
**To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Fine with me, but looping in Nancy and Jahan to confirm.

---

**From:** Ringel, Aaron  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 10:39 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Liz/Troy,

Ranking Member Pallone asked for a copy of the contract with Definers along with the scope of work in his questions for the record after the Administrators 12/7 hearing (question/response below). Have we provided this elsewhere or has it been released as part of a FOIA possibly? Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 Thoughts?

33. PALLONE: Please provide a copy of the contract between EPA and Definers Corp. including any statement of work.

**Response:** Deliberative Process / Ex. 5  
Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

---

**Aaron E. Ringel**  
*Deputy Associate Administrator*  
*Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations*  
*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
  
W: 202.564.4373  
[Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov](mailto:Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov)

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ringel, Aaron  
**Sent:** Thur 1/4/2018 3:55:57 PM  
**Subject:** RE: EPA contract documentation request

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

-Aaron

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:56 PM  
**To:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA contract documentation request

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:52 PM  
**To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Aarons, Kyle <Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: EPA contract documentation request

**From:** Seiger, Ryan [mailto:Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:09 PM  
**To:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Brain, Michael <Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov>; McCarragher, Ward <Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov>; Dedrick, Kathy <Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA contract documentation request

Aaron and Troy:

Per your request, enclosed is a formal request letter from Ranking Member DeFazio seeing additional information on the process that EPA followed in executing its contract with Definers for news analysis and brief service. A hard copy is being mailed today as well.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Ryan C. Seiger  
Staff Director/Senior Counsel  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
505 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-0060

**From:** Lyons, Troy [mailto:lyons.troy@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 5:37 PM  
**To:** Seiger, Ryan <Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov>  
**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Brain, Michael <Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov>; McCarragher, Ward <Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov>; Dedrick, Kathy <Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: EPA contract documentation request

Ryan:

Formal inquiries help us keep track of the numerous inquiries we receive from both the majority and the minority. We ask for a formal submission for tracking purposes as the inquiry will be assigned to the appropriate staffer. Also, formal requests help us process these requests in the order in which they are received.

We will continue to respond to requests such as TA and others requests through simple emails but ask oversight requests

I don't think Aaron's note implied you all do not have oversight authority, but with energy and commerce being our main committee of jurisdiction we want to ensure they are looped in as they are likely working on a similar request.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 18, 2017, at 4:45 PM, Seiger, Ryan <[Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov)> wrote:

Aaron:

On your response to my information request, a few questions...first, it is now EPA policy that routine oversight requests from Committee staff need now be formal letter requests from the Members? Also, is this request for a letter coming from OCIR or from the agency at large?

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Ryan C. Seiger

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment

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Best,

-Aaron

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Wed 2/7/2018 3:44:54 PM  
**Subject:** RE: E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

I will check on the foia front

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 07, 2018 10:44 AM  
**To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Fine with me, but looping in Nancy and Jahan to confirm.

**From:** Ringel, Aaron  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 10:39 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Liz/Troy,

Ranking Member Pallone asked for a copy of the contract with Definers along with the scope of work in his questions for the record after the Administrators 12/7 hearing (question/response below). Have we provided this elsewhere or has it been released as part of a FOIA possibly?

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 |           |
| Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 |           |
| Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 | Thoughts? |

33. PALLONE: Please provide a copy of the contract between EPA and Definers Corp. including any statement of work.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Response:                    | Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 |
| Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 |                              |

**Aaron E. Ringel**  
*Deputy Associate Administrator*  
*Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations*  
*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
  
W: 202.564.4373  
[Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov](mailto:Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov)

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Fri 12/15/2017 6:36:07 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Mother Jones (12-15) The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity

Jahan,

Here is a statement based on my conversation with the Office of Acquisition Management.

Thanks ng

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6** **(mobile)**

**From:** D'Andrea, Michael  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:17 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mother Jones (12-15) The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity

Sent from my iPhone  
Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Seneca, Roy" <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 10:07:08 AM EST  
**To:** "D'Andrea, Michael" <DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV>, "White, Terri-A" <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>, "schafer, joan" <schafer.joan@epa.gov>, "Sternberg, David" <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>, "Wzorek, Katherine" <wzorek.katherine@epa.gov>, "Smith, Bonnie" <smith.bonnie@epa.gov>, "Smith, William (Region 3)" <smith.william@epa.gov>, "McIlwain, Jaclyn" <Mcilwain.Jaclyn@epa.gov>, "Miles, Amanda" <miles.amanda@epa.gov>, "Hamilton, Brian" <Hamilton.Brian@epa.gov>, "Zieba, Kyle" <Zieba.Kyle@epa.gov>, "Brown, Kinshasa" <Brown.Kinshasa@epa.gov>, "Ferrell, Mark" <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Mother Jones (12-15) The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity

<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2017/12/the-epa-hired-a-major-republican-opposition-research-firm-to-track-press-activity/#>

**The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity**  
It promises “war room” style media monitoring.

Using taxpayer dollars, the Environmental Protection Agency has hired a cutting-edge Republican PR firm that specializes in digging up opposition research to help Administrator Scott Pruitt's office track and shape press coverage of the agency.

According to federal contracting records, earlier this month Pruitt's office inked a no-bid \$120,000 contract with Definers Corp., a Virginia-based public relations firm founded by Matt Rhoades, who managed Mitt Romney's 2012 presidential campaign. Following Romney's defeat, Rhoades established America Rising, an ostensibly independent political action committee that works closely with the Republican National Committee and Republican candidates to mine damning information on opponents. Other higher-ups at Definers include former RNC research director Joe Pounder, who's been described as "a master of opposition research," and senior vice president Colin Reed, an oppo-research guru billed as "among the leaders of the war on [Sen. Elizabeth] Warren."

This for-profit consulting firm offers a variety of public relations services such as digital strategy, political consulting, and media relations. According to its website, Definers' clients include Fortune 500 corporations, political groups, and nonprofits. In the past, both Marco Rubio and John McCain used their services, and since the 2016 election so has Rep. Diane Black (R-Tenn.). The client list for America Rising includes the RNC, Republican candidates, such as Sen. Pat Toomey (R-Penn.), and super-PACs such as the Mitch McConnell-linked Senate Leadership Fund and Karl Rove's American Crossroads.

The company also specializes in using the press and social media to "validate your narrative." According to the company's website, one of the tools to help do this is its "Definers Console" media-tracking technology. Reed said his firm contracted with Pruitt's office at the EPA, which is the first governmental client to pay for the Definers Console. The technology promises "war room" style media monitoring, analysis and advice, according to marketing materials. A brochure for the Console assures users that they will be able to "monitor for potential crises, as well as to track their message dissemination, relevant responses to their messaging, and what competitors' actions have been."

Besides monitoring media, users will get analysis and input from their employees whose experience in political campaigns and the business world helps create a unique approach "to intelligence gathering and opposition work. This experience informs the way we gather, synthesize, and disseminate information."

"Definers has been contracted to provide media monitoring services through our Console by the EPA," Reed says. "We provide the same service to a number of corporate and non-profit organizations."

In response to *Mother Jones*' questions about the Definers contract, EPA spokesperson Nancy Grantham said, "The Definers contract is for media monitoring/newsclip compilation." To a question on how the contract came about, she said: "The contract award was handled through the EPA Office of Acquisition Management."

USASpending.gov, a website that tracks federal spending, shows that in early 2016 the EPA signed a \$207,000 contract with a firm called Bulletin Intelligence, requesting similar services. Bulletin is owned by public relations giant Cision, a well-known international PR firm. According to OpenSecrets.org's expenditure data, Bulletin is not political and has not done any recent work for any candidates or PACs. The contract expired in February.

Definers also recently launched a new venture with the global law firm Dentons, which describes itself as combining "political intelligence, legal advisors, campaign-style tactics, lobbying, governmental affairs, research, and communications into one unique offering" to help clients.

The career of at least one of Pruitt's staffers has overlapped with the Republican operatives at Definers. Jahan Wilcox, who previously worked for Marco Rubio's presidential campaign and in rapid response for the Republican National Committee, is now a spokesperson for the EPA.

Wilcox, along with other political staff in Pruitt's EPA press shop, has had some contentious interactions with the press. In one case, when Eric Lipton from The New York Times was confirming facts for an investigation



into the EPA's industry-friendly approach to chemical regulation, EPA spokesperson Liz Bowman diverted the discussion to other outlets' reporting rather than confirming his questions. Wilcox added, "If you want to steal work from other outlets and pretend like it's your own reporting that is your decision."

On another occasion, shortly after the *Associated Press* reported on the Superfund sites affected by Hurricane Harvey, the EPA went after one of the bylined reporters in a statement, and an unnamed official later admitted to removing one of the bylined *AP* reporters from the agency's press list, saying, "We don't think he's a trustworthy reporter." When Pruitt has faced criticism, the EPA highlights friendlier stories from conservative outlets—including *Breitbart*.

Pruitt has come under fire for a general lack of transparency at the EPA. The latest example is his trip promoting natural gas in Morocco. The public learned of his travels when his office posted a media release, causing confusion over why the EPA would not notify reporters ahead of time. This means that information on Pruitt's activities in Morocco will be restricted to the EPA's own spin.

The EPA's work with groups affiliated with Pounder predate this contract. On a handful of occasions, the EPA has promoted positive coverage of Pruitt's actions from the news-aggregation website Need To Know Network. Earlier this year, the website wrote a series of stories designed shed positive light on the controversial administrator. In one story, the site describes Pruitt as "busy racking up accomplishments that both protect Americans and save millions in taxpayer dollars." Another congratulated Pruitt for moving ahead with plans to open Alaska's Bristol Bay to mining, writing it was "a move that will prove to be a massive job creator for President Trump and Pruitt."

The Need to Know Network was started by Pounder and other operatives connected to America Rising and Definers Corp.

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy[Lyons.troy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ringel, Aaron  
**Sent:** Wed 2/7/2018 3:38:37 PM  
**Subject:** E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Liz/Troy,

Ranking Member Pallone asked for a copy of the contract with Definers along with the scope of work in his questions for the record after the Administrators 12/7 hearing (question/response below). Have we provided this elsewhere or has it been released as part of a FOIA possibly?

|                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Deliberative Process / Ex. 5</b> |           |
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| <b>Deliberative Process / Ex. 5</b> | Thoughts? |

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|                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Response:</b>                    | <b>Deliberative Process / Ex. 5</b> |
| <b>Deliberative Process / Ex. 5</b> |                                     |

**Aaron E. Ringel**  
*Deputy Associate Administrator*  
*Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations*  
*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
  
W: 202.564.4373  
[Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov](mailto:Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov)

**To:** John Siciliano[jsiciliano@washingtonexaminer.com]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Fri 12/15/2017 4:27:32 PM

**“The Definers contract is for media monitoring/news clip compilation. The contract award was handled through the EPA Office of Acquisition Management and was \$87,000 cheaper than our previous media monitoring vendor while offering 24-7 news alerts once a story goes public.” – EPA spokesperson Nancy Grantham**

Jahan Wilcox

EPA

Strategic Communications Advisor

Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

**To:** Lisa Friedman[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Fri 12/15/2017 3:48:40 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up question on MJ story

Checking with the folks in the office of acquisition management.

---

**From:** Lisa Friedman [mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:21 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Follow up question on MJ story

And why was this a no-bid contract when other companies perform the same service?

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, The New York Times  
202-862-0306 office

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell  
Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com  
Twitter: @LFFriedman

On Dec 15, 2017, at 10:20 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

**“The Definers contract is for media monitoring/news clip compilation. The contract award was handled through the EPA Office of Acquisition Management and was \$87,000 cheaper than our previous media monitoring vendor while offering 24-7 news alerts once a story goes public.”** – EPA spokesperson Nancy Grantham

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**From:** Lisa Friedman [mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:15 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Follow up question on MJ story

Hello,  
Can you please provide a comment about why the news compilation that Definers has been hired to do can not be performed in house?

Secondly - were there any issues with Bulletin that caused EPA to switch providers for this service?

Third, as there are clearly other companies that perform this work – – like the one EPA had previously contracted with – – can you please provide an explanation of why this was a no-bid contract.

Thank you,  
Lisa

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, The New York Times  
202-862-0306 office

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell  
[Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com](mailto:Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com)  
Twitter: @LFFriedman

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Fri 12/15/2017 3:43:33 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up question on MJ story

Checking with folks in contracts

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:41 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow up question on MJ story

This is based on our conversation. Please feel free to edit this so that it's 100 percent accurate regarding the process. Thank you.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:21 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Follow up question on MJ story

And why was this a no-bid contract when other companies perform the same service?

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, The New York Times  
202-862-0306 office

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

 cell  
Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com  
Twitter: @LFFriedman

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**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:15 AM  
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**Cc:** Press <Press@epa.gov>  
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Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, The New York Times  
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Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell

[Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com](mailto:Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com)

Twitter: @LFFriedman

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Fri 12/15/2017 3:40:31 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Follow up question on MJ story

This is based on our conversation. Please feel free to edit this so that it's 100 percent accurate regarding the process. Thank you.

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

---

**From:** Lisa Friedman [mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:21 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Follow up question on MJ story

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**Cc:** Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
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Lisa Friedman



Reporter, The New York Times  
202-862-0306 office

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell

[Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com](mailto:Lisa.Friedman@nytimes.com)

Twitter: @LFFriedman

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Fri 12/15/2017 3:19:04 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Mother Jones (12-15) The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

**From:** D'Andrea, Michael  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:17 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mother Jones (12-15) The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Seneca, Roy" <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 10:07:08 AM EST  
**To:** "D'Andrea, Michael" <DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV>, "White, Terri-A" <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>, "schafer, joan" <schafer.joan@epa.gov>, "Sternberg, David" <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>, "Wzorek, Katherine" <wzorek.katherine@epa.gov>, "Smith, Bonnie" <smith.bonnie@epa.gov>, "Smith, William (Region 3)" <smith.william@epa.gov>, "McIlwain, Jaclyn" <Mcilwain.Jaclyn@epa.gov>, "Miles, Amanda" <miles.amanda@epa.gov>, "Hamilton, Brian" <Hamilton.Brian@epa.gov>, "Zieba, Kyle" <Zieba.Kyle@epa.gov>, "Brown, Kinshasa" <Brown.Kinshasa@epa.gov>, "Ferrell, Mark" <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Mother Jones (12-15) The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity

<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2017/12/the-epa-hired-a-major-republican-opposition-research-firm-to-track-press-activity/#>

# The EPA Hired a Major Republican Opposition Research Firm to Track Press Activity

It promises “war room” style media monitoring.

Rebecca Leber, Andy Kroll and Russ ChomaDec. 15, 2017 6:00 AM

Using taxpayer dollars, the Environmental Protection Agency has hired a cutting-edge Republican PR firm that specializes in digging up opposition research to help Administrator Scott Pruitt’s office track and shape press coverage of the agency.

According to federal contracting records, earlier this month Pruitt’s office inked a no-bid \$120,000 contract with Definers Corp., a Virginia-based public relations firm founded by Matt Rhoades, who managed Mitt Romney’s 2012 presidential campaign. Following Romney’s defeat, Rhoades established America Rising, an ostensibly independent political action committee that works closely with the Republican National Committee and Republican candidates to mine damning information on opponents. Other higher-ups at Definers include former RNC research director Joe Pounder, who’s been described as “a master of opposition research,” and senior vice president Colin Reed, an oppo-research guru billed as “among the leaders of the war on [Sen. Elizabeth] Warren.”

This for-profit consulting firm offers a variety of public relations services such as digital strategy, political

consulting, and media relations. According to its website, Definers' clients include Fortune 500 corporations, political groups, and nonprofits. In the past, both Marco Rubio and John McCain used their services, and since the 2016 election so has Rep. Diane Black (R-Tenn.). The client list for America Rising includes the RNC, Republican candidates, such as Sen. Pat Toomey (R-Penn.), and super-PACs such as the Mitch McConnell-linked Senate Leadership Fund and Karl Rove's American Crossroads.

The company also specializes in using the press and social media to "validate your narrative." According to the company's website, one of the tools to help do this is its "Definers Console" media-tracking technology. Reed said his firm contracted with Pruitt's office at the EPA, which is the first governmental client to pay for the Definers Console. The technology promises "war room" style media monitoring, analysis and advice, according to marketing materials. A brochure for the Console assures users that they will be able to "monitor for potential crises, as well as to track their message dissemination, relevant responses to their messaging, and what competitors' actions have been."

Besides monitoring media, users will get analysis and input from their employees whose experience in political campaigns and the business world helps create a unique approach "to intelligence gathering and opposition work. This experience informs the way we gather, synthesize, and disseminate information."

"Definers has been contracted to provide media monitoring services through our Console by the EPA," Reed says. "We provide the same service to a number of corporate and non-profit organizations."

In response to *Mother Jones*' questions about the Definers contract, EPA spokesperson Nancy Grantham said, "The Definers contract is for media monitoring/newsclip compilation." To a question on how the contract came about, she said: "The contract award was handled through the EPA Office of Acquisition Management."

USASpending.gov, a website that tracks federal spending, shows that in early 2016 the EPA signed a \$207,000 contract with a firm called Bulletin Intelligence, requesting similar services. Bulletin is owned by public relations giant Cision, a well-known international PR firm. According to OpenSecrets.org's expenditure data, Bulletin is not political and has not done any recent work for any candidates or PACs. The contract expired in February.

Definers also recently launched a new venture with the global law firm Dentons, which describes itself as combining "political intelligence, legal advisors, campaign-style tactics, lobbying, governmental affairs, research, and communications into one unique offering" to help clients.

The career of at least one of Pruitt's staffers has overlapped with the Republican operatives at Definers. Jahan Wilcox, who previously worked for Marco Rubio's presidential campaign and in rapid response for the Republican National Committee, is now a spokesperson for the EPA.

Wilcox, along with other political staff in Pruitt's EPA press shop, has had some contentious interactions with the press. In one case, when Eric Lipton from The New York Times was confirming facts for an investigation into the EPA's industry-friendly approach to chemical regulation, EPA spokesperson Liz Bowman diverted the discussion to other outlets' reporting rather than confirming his questions. Wilcox added, "If you want to steal work from other outlets and pretend like it's your own reporting that is your decision."

On another occasion, shortly after the *Associated Press* reported on the Superfund sites affected by Hurricane Harvey, the EPA went after one of the bylined reporters in a statement, and an unnamed official later admitted to removing one of the bylined AP reporters from the agency's press list, saying, "We don't think he's a trustworthy reporter." When Pruitt has faced criticism, the EPA highlights friendlier stories from conservative outlets—including *Breitbart*.

Pruitt has come under fire for a general lack of transparency at the EPA. The latest example is his trip promoting natural gas in Morocco. The public learned of his travels when his office posted a media release, causing confusion over why the EPA would not notify reporters ahead of time. This means that information on Pruitt's activities in Morocco will be restricted to the EPA's own spin.

The EPA's work with groups affiliated with Pounder predate this contract. On a handful of occasions, the

EPA has promoted positive coverage of Pruitt's actions from the news-aggregation website Need To Know Network. Earlier this year, the website wrote a series of stories designed shed positive light on the controversial administrator. In one story, the site describes Pruitt as "busy racking up accomplishments that both protect Americans and save millions in taxpayer dollars." Another congratulated Pruitt for moving ahead with plans to open Alaska's Bristol Bay to mining, writing it was "a move that will prove to be a massive job creator for President Trump and Pruitt."

The Need to Know Network was started by Pounder and other operatives connected to America Rising and Definers Corp.

**To:** Bodine, Susan[bodine.susan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thur 12/14/2017 8:47:52 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment on Definers contract, deadline end of day

This is a leak that came from [Personal Privacy / Ex. 6]

Definers was hired to do media monitoring in real-time (24-7) with the ability to cut clips to help our shop.

Nancy ran point on this, but [Personal Privacy / Ex. 6] was the only person that knew I know that Definers offered this war room monitoring system.

---

**From:** Rebecca Leber [mailto:rleber@motherjones.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 3:36 PM  
**To:** Press <Press@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Request for comment on Definers contract, deadline end of day

Writing to request comment on federal records showing that the EPA has hired Definers Corp., a PR firm associated with GOP campaigns, on a \$120,000 federal contract to conduct media monitoring.

What work was Definers hired for?

Can you comment on Jahan Wilcox's connections to the staff at Definers, and if he or any other staff played a role in facilitating the contract?

My deadline is end of the day, thank you

Rebecca Leber

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thur 12/14/2017 7:46:18 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

Each region compiles clips each day – and early on we had asked them to send them to OPA – they all compile them in different ways.

Also, we have finally awarded the Definers contract (media service that Jahan had recommended), so we will start getting clips from them shortly. We have a startup call with them next week – and will include others on the call.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:44 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

What's the deal with these emails? Why does she send these around and who all gets these/who decides what is included/not included?

---

**From:** Henderson, Dedre  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** Henderson, Dedre <Henderson.Dedre@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

Environmental Headlines – prepared by the Region 8 Librarians – December 14, 2017

Note: Many newspapers are beginning to adopt subscription policies to govern access to their online editions. In some cases, this involves the creation of a free user account; in others, paid subscription is necessary to view more than a set number of articles (usually 20) per month. If you have difficulty accessing the news articles you need, please contact the library ([library-reg8@epa.gov](mailto:library-reg8@epa.gov) or (303) 312-7226) for assistance. Please note that the new Region 8 intranet site does not allow access to older headlines; if you need assistance retrieving a news article from a previous week or month, please contact the library.

## COLORADO

Crestone sues Colorado for overlapping drilling applications  
<http://www.denverpost.com/2017/12/13/crestone-sues-colorado-for-overlapping-drilling-applications/>

Fort Collins considers changes to oil and gas buffers  
<http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2017/12/14/fort-collins-considers-changes-oil-and-gas-buffers/949529001/>

Asbestos being removed from retired high school  
<https://the-journal.com/articles/77936-asbestos-being-removed-from-retired-high-school>

## **MONTANA**

Plan for mosquito-control drone grounded

[http://www.dailyinterlake.com/local\\_news/20171213/plan\\_for\\_mosquito-control\\_drone\\_grounded](http://www.dailyinterlake.com/local_news/20171213/plan_for_mosquito-control_drone_grounded)

## **UTAH**

Another Red Air Day forecast for Salt Lake County

<http://fox13now.com/2017/12/13/another-red-air-day-forecast-for-salt-lake-county/>

Feds give initial OK to Utah's application to build Lake Powell pipeline - but with a major, unexpected twist

<http://www.sltrib.com/news/2017/12/13/feds-give-initial-ok-to-utahs-application-to-build-lake-powell-pipeline-but-with-a-major-unexpected-twist/>

## **NATIONAL**

What Republicans Think About Climate Change — in Maps

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/12/14/climate/republicans-global-warming-maps.html?rref=collection%2Fsectioncollection%2Fclimate>

EPA Chemical Safety Nominee Drops Out Amid Strong Opposition

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2017/12/13/us/politics/ap-us-congress-epa-dourson.html>

Anti-Pipeline Group Goes Back to Work Against Keystone XL

<https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2017/12/14/us/14reuters-usa-pipelines-keystone.html>

Fracking sites may raise the risk of underweight babies, new study says

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/12/13/fracking-sites-raise-the-risk-of-low-birth-weight-babies-new-study-says/?utm\\_term=.6bfc8a7ca222](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/12/13/fracking-sites-raise-the-risk-of-low-birth-weight-babies-new-study-says/?utm_term=.6bfc8a7ca222)

Sustainability Careers Have Gotten A Trump Bump — At The Local Level

<http://www.cpr.org/news/story/sustainability-careers-have-gotten-a-trump-bump-at-the-local-level>

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Lisa Friedman[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**From:** Lipton, Eric  
**Sent:** Wed 12/20/2017 11:14:25 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Question about FOIA responses here

Thanks for this response.  
I appreciate it.

Eric Lipton  
  
Washington Bureau  
202 862 0448 office  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

mobile  
[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)


On Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 3:09 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

According to the document you provided, the average time for a simple request to be filled is 18 days. Of these 17 requests, 16 were simple and 8 have been closed.

**From:** Lipton, Eric [mailto:[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:46 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Lisa Friedman <[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com](mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Question about FOIA responses here

Here are the requests from Allan

Getting you comparative data on FOIA responses in general

Eric Lipton  
  
Washington Bureau  
202 862 0448 office  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

mobile  
[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:34 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

Can you send me the 17 requests and very unusual compared to ...



**From:** Lipton, Eric [mailto:[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:25 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lisa Friedman <[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com](mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com)>  
**Subject:** Question about FOIA responses here

The response rate that Allan Blutstein had for his FOIAs here seems very unusual.

Here are those stats for 2017:

His 2017 HQ filings: 17 total requests. 8 closed, 5 full grants, 3 no responsive docs. 9 on 'assignment'

2017 numbers for regional EPA offices:

R1: 4 requests. 4 closed. 1 full grant, 3 no responsive docs  
R2: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs  
R3: 4 requests. 1 still being processed. 3 closed, 2 no responsive docs, 1 withdrawn  
R4: 2 requests. 2 closed, 1 full grant, 1 partial grant/partial denial  
R5: 4 requests. 4 closed, 3 no responsive docs, 1 full grant (O'Grady docs)  
R6: 3 requests. 3 closed, 1 no responsive docs, 2 full grants  
R7: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs  
R8: 2 requests. 2 closed, 1 no responsive docs, 1 full grant  
R9: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs  
R10: 3 requests. 3 closed, 2 no responsive docs, 1 partial grant/partial denial (released 62 records re: Michael Cox)

Here are my questions:

1) Did anyone at the EPA instruct the agency FOIA staff to accelerate processing of these FOIA responses?

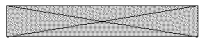
2) Was Mr. Pruitt or members of his staff, including Liz Bowman and Jahan Wilcox or Samantha Dravis and Ryan Jackson or others on his staff, notified that these FOIAs had been filed and did any of these individuals participate in anyway in the handling of these FOIAs?

3) Why did Allan Blutstein get such fast turnaround on his FOIAs. Was it based on any kind of favoritism?

Thanks in advance for your help. A response this afternoon is needed.

Eric

Eric Lipton



Washington Bureau

202 862 0448 office

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6** mobile

lipton@nytimes.com

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wed 10/18/2017 8:25:24 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

Thank you very much!

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2017 4:24 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers -- Clips

We are just finishing the statement of work with the contracting office and then they have to advertise it for 5 days to justify "sole sourcing" this to Definers, due to the high \$ value of the contract, to make sure another vendor doesn't say they can do the same thing.

Thx ng  
Sent from my iPhone  
On Oct 18, 2017, at 4:13 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Guys we've been working on this since June. I don't know if the problem is with Definers or EPA but let's get this done, asap. No more delays.

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 6:27 PM  
**To:** Joe Pounder <jpounder@definerscorp.com>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers -- Clips

Great. Adding Nancy and Liz.

On Sep 28, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Joe Pounder <jpounder@definerscorp.com> wrote:

We're fully registered...

<Screen Shot 2017-09-28 at 4.23.59 PM.png>

On Thu, Sep 28, 2017 at 3:29 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

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**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

HI –

Working with contracts on this – here is the remaining issue that the contracting officer brought to me yesterday --

Specifically, the vendor is not registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). In order

for any vendor to receive a contract from the federal government, they must be registered in this system. The vendor seems to be reluctant to register.

George had been working with the vendor on this. I have a call into the vendor as they may need assistance in completing the forms.

Will update you as soon as I hear from the vendor.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

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**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:02 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers -- Clips  
**Importance:** High

Where are we on this and when can we get this going? Today is a day where we could really use their help capturing clips in real time. This is very important and our wait and the process to do this has been way too long. Thank you!

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

--

Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Wed 10/18/2017 8:24:08 PM  
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**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6** **(mobile)**

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**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers -- Clips  
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Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

--

Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**To:** Joe Pounder[jpounder@definerscorp.com]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wed 10/18/2017 8:13:51 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

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**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
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Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

--

Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definercorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definercorp.com)  
571-290-5460



**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wed 10/18/2017 8:11:33 PM  
**Subject:** We need Definers' clipping service down now.

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Joe Pounder[jpounder@definerscorp.com]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thur 9/28/2017 10:29:42 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Definers -- Clips

Great / will let contracts know. Thx

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 28, 2017, at 6:27 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

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**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

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Specifically, the vendor is not registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). In order for any vendor to receive a contract from the federal government, they must be registered in this system. The vendor seems to be reluctant to register.

George had been working with the vendor on this. I have a call into the vendor as they may need assistance in completing the forms.

Will update you as soon as I hear from the vendor.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**

**Office of Public Affairs**

**US Environmental Protection Agency**

**202-564-6879 (desk)**

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan

**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:02 PM

**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Definers -- Clips

**Importance:** High

Where are we on this and when can we get this going? Today is a day where we could really use their help capturing clips in real time. This is very important and our wait and the process to do this has been way too long. Thank you!

Jahan Wilcox

EPA

Strategic Communications Advisor

Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

--

Joe Pounder

[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)

571-290-5460

**To:** Joe Pounder[jpounder@definerscorp.com]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thur 9/28/2017 10:27:21 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Definers -- Clips

Great. Adding Nancy and Liz.

On Sep 28, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Joe Pounder <jpounder@definerscorp.com> wrote:

We're fully registered...  
<Screen Shot 2017-09-28 at 4.23.59 PM.png>

On Thu, Sep 28, 2017 at 3:29 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

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--

Joe Pounder

[jpounder@definercorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definercorp.com)

571-290-5460

**To:** Lipton, Eric[lipton@nytimes.com]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Lisa Friedman[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wed 12/20/2017 8:09:02 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Question about FOIA responses here

According to the document you provided, the average time for a simple request to be filled is 18 days. Of these 17 requests, 16 were simple and 8 have been closed.

**From:** Lipton, Eric [mailto:lipton@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:46 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Lisa Friedman <lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Question about FOIA responses here

Here are the requests from Allan  
Getting you comparative data on FOIA responses in general

Eric Lipton  
  
Washington Bureau  
202 862 0448 office  
Personal Phone / Ex. 6 mobile  
[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:34 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:  
Can you send me the 17 requests and very unusual compared to ...

**From:** Lipton, Eric [mailto:[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:25 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lisa Friedman <[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com](mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com)>  
**Subject:** Question about FOIA responses here

The response rate that Allan Blutstein had for his FOIAs here seems very unusual.

Here are those stats for 2017:

His 2017 HQ filings: 17 total requests. 8 closed, 5 full grants, 3 no responsive docs. 9 on 'assignment'

2017 numbers for regional EPA offices:

R1: 4 requests. 4 closed. 1 full grant, 3 no responsive docs  
R2: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs  
R3: 4 requests. 1 still being processed. 3 closed, 2 no responsive docs, 1 withdrawn  
R4: 2 requests. 2 closed, 1 full grant, 1 partial grant/partial denial  
R5: 4 requests. 4 closed, 3 no responsive docs, 1 full grant (O'Grady docs)  
R6: 3 requests. 3 closed, 1 no responsive docs, 2 full grants  
R7: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs  
R8: 2 requests. 2 closed, 1 no responsive docs, 1 full grant  
R9: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs  
R10: 3 requests. 3 closed, 2 no responsive docs, 1 partial grant/partial denial (released 62 records re: Michael Cox)

Here are my questions:

1) Did anyone at the EPA instruct the agency FOIA staff to accelerate processing of these FOIA responses?

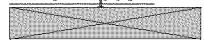
2) Was Mr. Pruitt or members of his staff, including Liz Bowman and Jahan Wilcox or Samantha Dravis and Ryan Jackson or others on his staff, notified that these FOIAs had been filed and did any of these individuals participate in anyway in the handling of these FOIAs?

3) Why did Allan Blutstein get such fast turnaround on his FOIAs. Was it based on any kind of favoritism?

Thanks in advance for your help. A response this afternoon is needed.

Eric

Eric Lipton



Washington Bureau

202 862 0448 office

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 mobile

[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thur 9/28/2017 7:28:56 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

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**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

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**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:02 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Definers -- Clips  
**Importance:** High

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Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)



**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thur 9/28/2017 7:02:08 PM  
**Subject:** Definers -- Clips

Where are we on this and when can we get this going? Today is a day where we could really use their help capturing clips in real time. This is very important and our wait and the process to do this has been way too long. Thank you!

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Jackson, Ryan  
**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 10:45:10 PM  
**Subject:** Re: GOP firm ends controversial media monitoring contract with EPA

Let's just keep them. We posted the contract.

---

Ryan Jackson  
Chief of Staff  
U.S. EPA

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

On Dec 19, 2017, at 3:45 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

\$87,000 cheaper than the previous firm.

John Kerry's CoS called a few outlets this weekend (at his own request) telling reporters, wish we would've figured this out while we were at State, because **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Apologize for the headache.

---

**From:** Jackson, Ryan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:36 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: GOP firm ends controversial media monitoring contract with EPA

Why this makes it appear wrong when it's not?

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

---

**From:** POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard [mailto:politicoemail@politicopro.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 2:24 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** GOP firm ends controversial media monitoring contract with EPA

By Emily Holden

12/19/2017 02:22 PM EDT

The Republican media monitoring firm Definers Public Affairs canceled its \$120,000 contract with EPA following a media backlash because of the company's links to GOP opposition research firm America Rising.

Earlier this year, America Rising filed several Freedom Of Information Act requests for communications from EPA career staffers who had been critical of Administrator Scott Pruitt or President Donald Trump. That included email sent by John O'Grady, a top union official at the EPA, that "mentions or refers to President Trump."

News reports about the two efforts to monitor news coverage about the agency and dig up information about dissenting staffers stirred new accusations that Pruitt is fostering an atmosphere of paranoia and distrust at EPA.

Definers described the decision to end the contract as mutual, although EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox would not say whether the agency or company initiated the cancellation.

Definers President Joe Pounder said in a written statement that previous administrations paid for more for slower services, but "it's become clear this will become a distraction. As a result, Definers and the EPA have decided to forgo the contract." He added that the firm will not offer its services to any other federal agencies.

Mother Jones first reported on the contract, and The New York Times documented the ties between Definers and America Rising, which was also started by Pounder.

*To view online:*

<https://www.politicopro.com/energy/whiteboard/2017/12/gop-firm-ends-controversial-media-monitoring-contract-with-epa-295918>

Was this Pro content helpful? Tell us what you think in one click.

Yes, very

Somewhat

Neutral

Not really

Not at all

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This email was sent to [jackson.ryan@epa.gov](mailto:jackson.ryan@epa.gov) by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wed 4/25/2018 2:32:10 PM  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

RJ – good to go? We got an 11a deadline.

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

---

**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:19 AM  
**To:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Good with me

---

**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:07 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Looks good

Sent from my iPhone  
On Apr 25, 2018, at 8:45 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Below is a statement regarding hearing prep that we can use throughout the day:

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**From:** Friedman, Lisa [<mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:32 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Request for comment on hearings

Hi Liz & Jahan,

I'm running a story today that advances the congressional hearings at which Mr. Pruitt will testify Thursday.

The story will include and make reference to a document that I have, entitled "Hot Topics." The story will characterize this document as outlining Mr. Pruitt's potential responses to likely questions during the hearings.

Can you tell me who drafted this document? I'd also like to get a comment on whether it accurately describes answers that Mr. Pruitt has been prepped by staff to give.

I won't attach the actual document but for purposes of verifying its validity with you, this with you it begins:

## HOT TOPICS

Condo

Kevin Minoli, EPA's principal deputy general counsel, in a March 30 memo determined that the rate for 30 consecutive days would have equated to a monthly rent of \$1,500. Minoli described that as "reasonable market value." He also found it did not constitute a "prohibited gift." I would be happy to provide that memo to your staff.

These, according to the document, are some of the other topics he is prepared to address — several of which I will make reference to in the story:

*SCIF; Sweeping the office; Biometric Locks; Bullet proof vehicles and tires; Office Decoration; Netjets; G7 Trip; Staffing (Raises; Samantha Dravis; Alleged Reassignment of Staff); Sue and Settle; Super Fund Task Force; Travel; First Class Travel; Morocco; Non-Commercial Flights; Homebuilders Association Hotel; Advisory Panels (membership, grants); Definers Contract; Chlorpyrifos; Climate change strategic plan; Enforcement; Funding; DOJ Funding; emails; Environmental Justice; War on Lead; IRIS; grants process; meetings with industry; Narragansett Bay; Regulatory Task Force; Reorganizations; and VERA/ViSP.*

Finally, the story will point out that, according to the preparations shown in this document, Mr. Pruitt may say that other people were responsible for the bulk of the recent spending and ethics issues like frequent first class travel, the SCIF and pay raises.

I will need a comment on this by 11 a.m, and of course if you have any other comment on Mr. Pruitt's plans for testifying before Congress tomorrow I will certainly include. I'll be out of pocket for the next hour but you can also call me on my cell after 8:30 a.m. if you'd like to speak directly.

Thanks so much,

Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times  
(202) 862-0306 office

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6** cell

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Lisa Friedman[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**From:** Lipton, Eric  
**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 9:18:34 PM  
**Subject:** Re: One other question re Definers

I did not realize you had already addressed this point with Lisa on the record.  
So we are all set re this question of disadvantaged status matter.

Eric

Eric Lipton  
  
Washington Bureau  
202 862 0448 office  
Personal Phone / Ex. 6 mobile  
[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:09 PM, Lipton, Eric <[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)> wrote:

Hi Liz and Jahan

In applying for the contract, Definers listed itself as a small disadvantaged business.  
Only after the contract was awarded, did it revise this filing  
Is this a discrepancy that EPA intends to pursue?

System for Award Management – Definers Corp., 8/31/17  
[System for Award Management – Definers Corp., 12/16/17]

Improperly listing one's status is a violation of federal law.

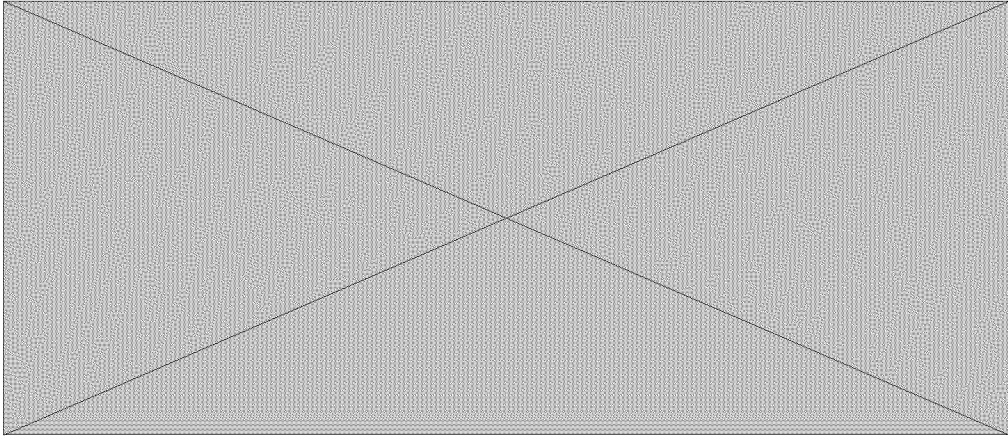
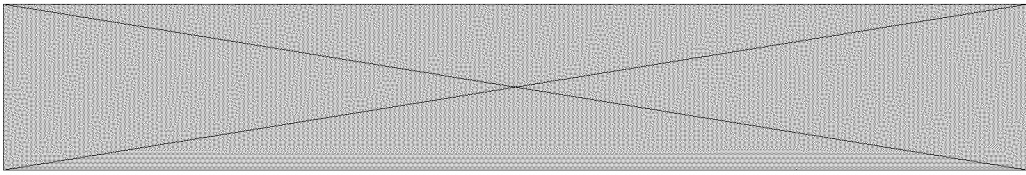
15 U.S. Code § 645, “(1) Whoever misrepresents the status of any concern or person as a ‘small business concern’, a ‘qualified HUBZone small business concern’, a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals’, or a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by women’, in order to obtain for oneself or another any—(A) prime contract to be awarded pursuant to section 638, 644, or 657a of this title [...] shall be subject to the penalties and remedies described in paragraph (2). (2)Any person who violates paragraph (1) shall— (A) be punished by a fine of not more than \$500,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both.” [15 U.S. Code § 645]

Can you let me know if this is something the EPA intends to pursue?

Thanks again

ERIC

Eric Lipton  
  
Washington Bureau  
202 862 0448 office  
Personal Phone / Ex. 6 mobile  
[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)



**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Lisa Friedman[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
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**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 9:09:31 PM  
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ERIC

Eric Lipton

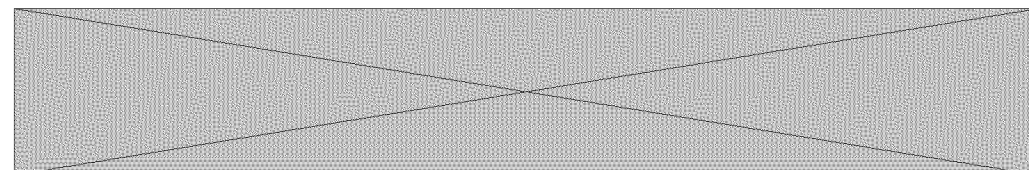


Washington Bureau

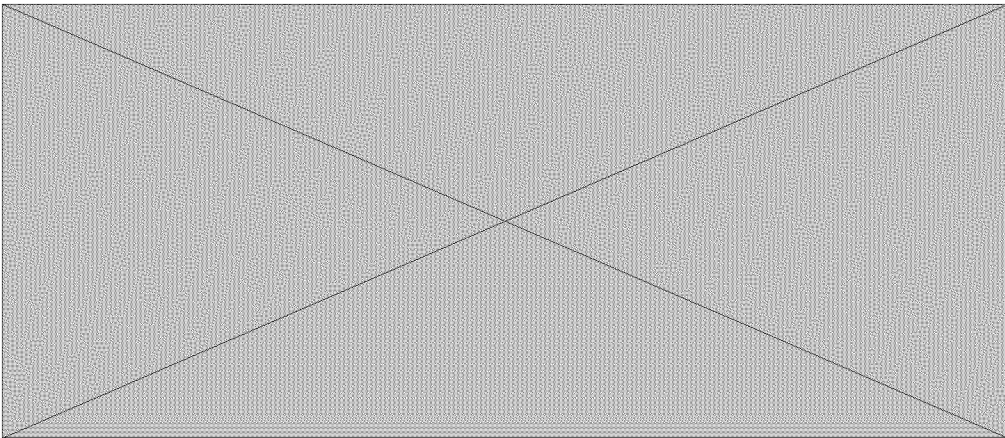
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Personal Phone / Ex. 6 mobile

[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)







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**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
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**Subject:** RE: GOP firm ends controversial media monitoring contract with EPA

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**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:36 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: GOP firm ends controversial media monitoring contract with EPA

Why this makes it appear wrong when it's not? **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

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By Emily Holden

12/19/2017 02:22 PM EDT

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Definers described the decision to end the contract as mutual, although EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox would not say whether the agency or company initiated the cancellation.

Definers President Joe Pounder said in a written statement that previous administrations paid for more for slower services, but "it's become clear this will become a distraction. As a result, Definers and the EPA have decided to forgo the contract." He added that the firm will not offer its services to any other federal agencies.

Mother Jones first reported on the contract, and The New York Times documented the ties between Definers and America Rising, which was also started by Pounder.

*To view online:*

<https://www.politicopro.com/energy/whiteboard/2017/12/gop-firm-ends-controversial-media-monitoring-contract-with-epa-295918>

Was this Pro content helpful? Tell us what you think in one click.

Yes, very

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Neutral

Not really

Not at all

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**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Jackson, Ryan  
**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 8:35:57 PM  
**Subject:** FW: GOP firm ends controversial media monitoring contract with EPA

Why this makes it appear wrong when it's not? **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

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<https://www.politicopro.com/energy/whiteboard/2017/12/gop-firm-ends-controversial-media-monitoring-contract-with-epa-295918>

Was this Pro content helpful? Tell us what you think in one click.

☐ Yes, very      ☐ Somewhat      ☐ Neutral      ☐ Not really      ☐ Not at all

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**To:** Lipton, Eric[lipton@nytimes.com]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lisa Friedman[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 8:34:11 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Question about FOIA responses here

Can you send me the 17 requests and very unusual compared to ...

**From:** Lipton, Eric [mailto:lipton@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:25 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lisa Friedman <lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>  
**Subject:** Question about FOIA responses here

The response rate that Allan Blutstein had for his FOIAs here seems very unusual.

Here are those stats for 2017:

His 2017 HQ filings: 17 total requests. 8 closed, 5 full grants, 3 no responsive docs. 9 on 'assignment'

2017 numbers for regional EPA offices:


- R1: 4 requests. 4 closed. 1 full grant, 3 no responsive docs
- R2: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs
- R3: 4 requests. 1 still being processed. 3 closed, 2 no responsive docs, 1 withdrawn
- R4: 2 requests. 2 closed, 1 full grant, 1 partial grant/partial denial
- R5: 4 requests. 4 closed, 3 no responsive docs, 1 full grant (O'Grady docs)
- R6: 3 requests. 3 closed, 1 no responsive docs, 2 full grants
- R7: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs
- R8: 2 requests. 2 closed, 1 no responsive docs, 1 full grant
- R9: 2 requests. 2 closed, 2 no responsive docs
- R10: 3 requests. 3 closed, 2 no responsive docs, 1 partial grant/partial denial (released 62 records re: Michael Cox)

Here are my questions:

- 1) Did anyone at the EPA instruct the agency FOIA staff to accelerate processing of these FOIA responses?
- 2) Was Mr. Pruitt or members of his staff, including Liz Bowman and Jahan Wilcox or Samantha Dravis and Ryan Jackson or others on his staff, notified that these FOIAs had been filed and did any of these individuals participate in anyway in the handling of these FOIAs?
- 3) Why did Allan Blutstein get such fast turnaround on his FOIAs. Was it based on any kind of favoritism?

Thanks in advance for your help. A response this afternoon is needed.

Eric

Eric Lipton  
  
Washington Bureau  
202 862 0448 office  
Personal Phone / Ex. 6 mobile



**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lisa Friedman[lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**From:** Lipton, Eric  
**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 8:24:52 PM  
**Subject:** Question about FOIA responses here

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Here are those stats for 2017:

His 2017 HQ filings: 17 total requests. 8 closed, 5 full grants, 3 no responsive docs. 9 on 'assignment'

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Washington Bureau  
202 862 0448 office  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

 mobile  
[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)

**To:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln  
**Sent:** Wed 4/25/2018 1:19:29 PM  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Good with me

---

**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:07 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Looks good

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 25, 2018, at 8:45 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**  
we can use throughout the day:

Below is a statement regarding hearing prep that

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**From:** Friedman, Lisa [<mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:32 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Request for comment on hearings

Hi Liz & Jahan,

I'm running a story today that advances the congressional hearings at which Mr. Pruitt will testify Thursday.

The story will include and make reference to a document that I have, entitled "Hot Topics." The story will characterize this document as outlining Mr. Pruitt's potential responses to likely questions during the hearings.

Can you tell me who drafted this document? I'd also like to get a comment on whether it accurately describes answers that Mr. Pruitt has been prepped by staff to give.

I won't attach the actual document but for purposes of verifying its validity with you, this with you it begins:

## HOT TOPICS

### Condo

Kevin Minoli, EPA's principal deputy general counsel, in a March 30 memo determined that the rate for 30 consecutive days would have equated to a monthly rent of \$1,500. Minoli described that as "reasonable market value." He also found it did not constitute a "prohibited gift." I would be happy to provide that memo to your staff.

These, according to the document, are some of the other topics he is prepared to address — several of which I will make reference to in the story:

*SCIF; Sweeping the office; Biometric Locks; Bullet proof vehicles and tires; Office Decoration; Netjets; G7 Trip; Staffing (Raises; Samantha Davis; Alleged Reassignment of Staff); Sue and Settle; Super Fund Task Force; Travel; First Class Travel; Morocco; Non-Commercial Flights; Homebuilders Association Hotel; Advisory Panels (membership, grants); Definers Contract; Chlorpyrifos; Climate change strategic plan; Enforcement; Funding; DOJ Funding; emails; Environmental Justice; War on Lead; IRIS; grants process; meetings with industry; Narragansett Bay; Regulatory Task Force; Reorganizations; and VERA/VISP.*

Finally, the story will point out that, according to the preparations shown in this document, Mr. Pruitt may say that other people were responsible for the bulk of the recent spending and ethics issues like frequent first class travel, the SCIF and pay raises.

I will need a comment on this by 11 a.m, and of course if you have any other comment on Mr. Pruitt's plans for testifying before Congress tomorrow I will certainly include. I'll be out of pocket for the next hour but you can also call me on my cell after 8:30 a.m. if you'd like to speak directly.



Thanks so much,

Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times  
(202) 862-0306 office

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]  
**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Wed 4/25/2018 1:06:34 PM  
**Subject:** Re: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Looks good

Sent from my iPhone

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Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times  
(202) 862-0306 office  
Personal Email / Ex. 6 cell

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wed 4/25/2018 12:45:11 PM  
**Subject:** APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Below is a statement regarding hearing prep that we can use throughout the day:

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**From:** Friedman, Lisa [mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:32 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
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Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times  
(202) 862-0306 office  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

 cell

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bennett, Tate  
**Sent:** Fri 10/20/2017 4:35:28 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Good line from Fox interview

Here is the entire piece

<http://www.fox26houston.com/news/epa-chief-declares-dioxin-dump-dangerous-pledges-clean-up>

On Oct 20, 2017, at 12:33 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

This clip is in our release.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 20, 2017, at 11:31 AM, Bennett, Tate <[Bennett.Tate@epa.gov](mailto:Bennett.Tate@epa.gov)> wrote:

Adding Jahan

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 20, 2017, at 12:31 PM, Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)> wrote:

Nice, we need to find this clip. Was this radio or TV? Jahan, do I need to ask Nancy again about definers?

-----Original Message-----

From: Bennett, Tate

Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 12:27 PM

To: Ferguson, Lincoln <[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov](mailto:ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov)>; Letendre, Daisy <[letendre.daisy@epa.gov](mailto:letendre.daisy@epa.gov)>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>

Subject: Good line from Fox interview

Critics have suggested the EPA chief would be hesitant to take on the pair of Fortune 500 companies financially responsible for the expensive cleanup. But today Pruitt emphatically pledged the full authority of his agency to force an effective cleanup.

Sent from my iPad

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tue 10/10/2017 11:50:20 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 4, 2017, at 2:23 PM, Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

>

> I am sitting with the contracts team right now to finalize what needs to be done

>

> Thx ng

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Oct 4, 2017, at 2:20 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

>>

>> What is the status on this? Ryan just asked for us to pull tv clips and we still don't have Definers who can provide this service to us.

>>

>> Let's get this done!

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tue 10/10/2017 9:46:36 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

Yes - Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 9, 2017, at 7:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:  
>

> Just want to stay on this.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Ex. 5 Thank you, Nancy!

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Oct 4, 2017, at 2:41 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Thank you!

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Grantham, Nancy

>> Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:24 PM

>> To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

>> Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

>> Subject: Re: Definers

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>> Sent from my iPhone

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**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Mon 10/9/2017 11:52:33 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

Just want to stay on this. Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Ex. 5 Thank you, Nancy!

Sent from my iPhone

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> Thank you!

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> Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:24 PM

> To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

> Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

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>>

>> Let's get this done!



**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Mon 8/14/2017 8:43:18 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Update on Definers

Here is an update from my end. **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**  
**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** Definers will need to be on a list of approved contractors for EPA to  
award the contract. **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**  
**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** I will keep you updated as we move  
forward. - George

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2017 4:10 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on Definers

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2017 4:04 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Update on Definers

George –

**Personal Privacy / Ex. 6** but where are we on Definers doing all of our  
clips? Hope you have a great weekend.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Flynn, Mike[Flynn.Mike@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Thur 6/29/2017 2:16:06 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

I'll contact our budget team and get the contract process started today. - George

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2017, at 10:12 AM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

George, that is fine to open up the competitive bidding process, but that needs to happen TODAY. This has been dragging on for weeks and weeks, and we don't need this to take any longer.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2017 9:13 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

Jahan,

I spoke with our budget team yesterday. Because this would be a \$ 120,000 contract, we cannot move forward without going through a competitive bidding process. In addition, this cost is more than OPA's budget. In the past, we have solicited funds from the program offices to reduce the portion covered by OPA. Other offices have contributed in exchange for receiving the clips once a day.

I can start the process of soliciting funds and competing the contract. If you and Liz want me to proceed, I'll get a time estimate from our budget team.

Our contact at Definers has still not returned my request for a demo. - George

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2017, at 8:50 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

George –

I don't care how this happens but we need to make this happen as quickly as possible.

I'm trying to get a clip from an MSNBC show that is time sensitive and can't grab it because it's not online yet. We miss a lot of clips that happen overnight or on the weekends and we need a solution to fix this.

Thank you.

Jahan

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

That makes sense. I'm asking Joe to give me a demo. I would do it on Thursday, but

Personal Matters / Ex. 6

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

Thanks man! I am out on Friday but the rapid response clips are helpful and the interns doing a great job but we miss stuff late at night.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

I'm trying to get a time set up with him on Friday. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers

Where are we on setting up a call with Joe. I really don't need to do a call, I know the quality of their product. Last night a story about in the NYT and would've been nice to have someone at the helm to send that out as it happened.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

**To:** Hull, George[Hull.George@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Fri 8/11/2017 8:04:04 PM  
**Subject:** Update on Definers

George –

**Personal Matters / Ex. 6**

but where are we on Definers doing all of our clips? Hope you have a great weekend.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
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Work Cell: Personal Phone / Ex. 6  
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

**To:** Hull, George[Hull.George@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thur 6/29/2017 1:22:21 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2017 9:13 AM  
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Personal Matters / Ex. 6

Personal Matters / Ex. 6

 If you would like to be part of the demo, I could find another day. - George

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
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**To:** Hull, George <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers

Where are we on setting up a call with Joe. I really don't need to do a call, I know the quality of their product. Last night a story about in the NYT and would've been nice to have someone at the helm to send that out as it happened.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: Personal Phone / Ex. 6  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Thur 6/29/2017 1:13:02 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

Jahan,

I spoke with our budget team yesterday. Because this would be a \$ 120,000 contract, we cannot move forward without going through a competitive bidding process. In addition, this cost is more than OPA's budget. In the past, we have solicited funds from the program offices to reduce the portion covered by OPA. Other offices have contributed in exchange for receiving the clips once a day.

I can start the process of soliciting funds and competing the contract. If you and Liz want me to proceed, I'll get a time estimate from our budget team.

Our contact at Definers has still not returned my request for a demo. - George

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2017, at 8:50 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

George –

I don't care how this happens but we need to make this happen as quickly as possible.

I'm trying to get a clip from an MSNBC show that is time sensitive and can't grab it because it's not online yet. We miss a lot of clips that happen overnight or on the weekends and we need a solution to fix this.

Thank you.

Jahan

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

That makes sense. I'm asking Joe to give me a demo. I would do it on Thursday, but **Personal Matters / Ex. 6**  
**Personal Matters / Ex. 6** If you would like to be part of the demo, I could find another day. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

Thanks man! I am out on Friday but the rapid response clips are helpful and the interns doing a great job but we miss stuff late at night.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

I'm trying to get a time set up with him on Friday. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers

Where are we on setting up a call with Joe. I really don't need to do a call, I know the quality of their product. Last night a story about in the NYT and would've been nice to have someone at the helm to send that out as it happened.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: Personal Phone / Ex. 6  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)



**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov];  
Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thur 5/25/2017 3:28:52 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Updated Proposal...  
[5.22.17 Definers EPA Monitoring Proposal.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

Also was going to submit this too but Definers Public Affairs can/should run our war-room clips (see attachment and proposal).

Alerting clips, transcripts in live time is a full-time job and because of the 24-7 news cycle it's not a one person job either.

I believe their sister company AR did this for SP during his confirmation.

I was waiting for JP to be done before bringing this proposal to the group.

I've always been working with Personal Matters / Ex. 6 - in revamping our our paper product goes out and to who it goes to. This project should've been finished two weeks ago as Nancy has been helpful.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Pounder <[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)>  
**Date:** May 22, 2017 at 4:26:28 PM CDT  
**To:** [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)  
**Subject:** Updated Proposal...

Mr. Wilcox,  
Please find attached an updated proposal with examples of actual alerts and daily matrix. Please let us know if you have any other questions. Our plan is when it is rolled out to clients, these alerts will be compiled into our Definers Console where they will be also stored and searchable in addition to emailed directly to inboxes.  
Thanks again.

--  
Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**To:** Hull, George[Hull.George@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thur 6/29/2017 12:50:31 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

George –

I don't care how this happens but we need to make this happen as quickly as possible.

I'm trying to get a clip from an MSNBC show that is time sensitive and can't grab it because it's not online yet. We miss a lot of clips that happen overnight or on the weekends and we need a solution to fix this.

Thank you.

Jahan

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

That makes sense. I'm asking Joe to give me a demo. I would do it on Thursday, but 

Personal Matters / Ex. 6

 If you would like to be part of the demo, I could find another day. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

Thanks man! I am out on Friday but the rapid response clips are helpful and the interns doing a great job but we miss stuff late at night.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

I'm trying to get a time set up with him on Friday. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Definers

Where are we on setting up a call with Joe. I really don't need to do a call, I know the quality of their product. Last night a story about in the NYT and would've been nice to have someone at the helm to send that out as it happened.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Mon 6/19/2017 3:10:53 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Proposal...

There are a bunch of offices it has to go through, no idea to be honest but George does.

---

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Proposal...

So who needs to sign it?

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 10:59 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Proposal...

**Personal Matters / Ex. 6**

Attached is the contract.

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>; 'jpounder@definerscorp.com' <jpounder@definerscorp.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Proposal...

George –

I am adding you to this email. Can you please contact Joe Pounder and circle back with me. I believe Definers is able to do morning summaries or morning media matrixs that we can circulate within the agency to interested people and they are also capable of doing live-time alerts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Thank you,

Jahan

---

**From:** Joe Pounder [mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 5:26 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Updated Proposal...

Mr. Wilcox,

Please find attached an updated proposal with examples of actual alerts and daily matrix. Please let us know if you have any other questions. Our plan is when it is rolled out to clients, these alerts will be compiled into our Definers Console where they will be also stored and searchable in addition to emailed directly to inboxes. Thanks again.

--  
Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Mon 6/19/2017 2:58:48 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Proposal...  
[5.22.17 Definers EPA Monitoring Proposal.pdf](#)

**Personal Privacy / Ex. 6**

Attached is the contract.

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>; 'jpounder@definerscorp.com' <jpounder@definerscorp.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Proposal...

George –

I am adding you to this email. Can you please contact Joe Pounder and circle back with me. I believe Definers is able to do morning summaries or morning media matrixs that we can circulate within the agency to interested people and they are also capable of doing live-time alerts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Thank you,

Jahan

**From:** Joe Pounder [<mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 5:26 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Updated Proposal...

Mr. Wilcox,

Please find attached an updated proposal with examples of actual alerts and daily matrix. Please let us know if you have any other questions. Our plan is when it is rolled out to clients, these alerts will be compiled into our Definers Console where they will be also stored and searchable in addition to emailed directly to inboxes. Thanks again.

--  
Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**To:** Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** White, Elizabeth  
**Sent:** Tue 4/17/2018 10:24:43 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Upcoming FOIA document release related to Definer's contract appeal FOIA-HQ-2018-003680  
[Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025 \(Redacted\).pdf](#)  
[Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025 MOD 1 \(Redacted\).pdf](#)  
[Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025 - JOFOC \(Redacted\).pdf](#)  
[Initial Statement of Work - Media Support Services \(Releasable\).pdf](#)  
[Final Statement of Work - Media Support Contract \(Releasable\).pdf](#)  
[Determination and Findings - 12-7-17 \(Releasable\).pdf](#)  
[SUPPORTINGMEMO for Sole Source Purchase Award Memorandum - 12-07-17 \(Releasable\).pdf](#)

FYI

**Beth White**

Director, Office of the Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
(202) 564-1781 direct

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 6:20 PM  
**To:** White, Elizabeth <white.elizabeth@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Upcoming FOIA document release related to Definer's contract appeal FOIA-HQ-2018-003680  
**Importance:** High

We should probably discuss thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 (mobile)

---

**From:** Walker, Denise  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 6:06 PM  
**To:** Bigioni, Neil <bigioni.neil@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Kelly, Lynn <Kelly.Lynn@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Upcoming FOIA document release related to Definer's contract appeal FOIA-HQ-2018-003680  
**Importance:** High

Neil:

**Attorney Client / Ex. 5**

Best,  
Denise

Denise A. Walker  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of General Counsel  
Washington, D.C. | 7308A WJCN  
Office: 202-564-6520  
EPA Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

Have a FOIA question? Try [here](#) first!

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 5:10 PM  
**To:** Hitchens, Lynnann <[hitchens.lynnann@epa.gov](mailto:hitchens.lynnann@epa.gov)>; Vizian, Donna <[Vizian.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Vizian.Donna@epa.gov)>; White, Elizabeth <[white.elizabeth@epa.gov](mailto:white.elizabeth@epa.gov)>; Bigioni, Neil <[bigioni.neil@epa.gov](mailto:bigioni.neil@epa.gov)>; Walker, Denise <[Walker.Denise@epa.gov](mailto:Walker.Denise@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA Appeal to FOIA-HQ-2018-003680

All –

This is about the Definers media contract – want to make sure that everyone is aware of this. Per OARM, there are 13 other foias on this same topic/issue – so we need to decide how we are going to proceed.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Hitchens, Lynnann  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 4:50 PM  
**To:** Vizian, Donna <[Vizian.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Vizian.Donna@epa.gov)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FOIA Appeal to FOIA-HQ-2018-003680

Donna and Nancy –

The OGC attorney handling the subject appeal needs to provide a timeline (by tomorrow) for when we will be able to release the responsive documents to FOIA -HQ-2018-003680. Specific information about the FOIA is below.

I believe that this request will be completed and ready for production and release by COB April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We could possibly meet an earlier date, if needed. Please advise.

The responsive documents would also fulfill (partial or in full) other similar FOIAs.

Lynnann Hitchens  
Director, Office of Resources, Operations, and Management  
Office of Administration and Resources Management  
P: 202-564-3184  
M: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

---

**From:** Sandfoss, Kristina  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 03, 2018 5:38 PM

**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Hitchens, Lynnann <hitchens.lynnann@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: responsive documents

Good afternoon Nancy,  
The request is EPA-HQ-2018-003680, appeal filed by H Kryczka/Environmental Advocates.  
Documents redacted and uploaded to FOIAonline:

- Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025
- Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025 MOD 1
- Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025 JOFOC
- Initial Statement of Work – Media Support Services
- Final Statement of Work – Media Support Contract
- Determinations and Findings 12-7-17
- Supporting Memo 12-7-17

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and help with this.  
Have a good evening,  
Kristina

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 3, 2018 5:21 PM  
**To:** Hitchens, Lynnann <hitchens.lynnann@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Sandfoss, Kristina <Sandfoss.Kristina@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: responsive documents

Thanks

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Hitchens, Lynnann  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 03, 2018 5:10 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Sandfoss, Kristina <Sandfoss.Kristina@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** responsive documents

Nancy – Kristina will be sending you the responsive documents directly, per our discussion. There are 14 requests similar to the one under appeal. Thanks for taking a look. Kristina will need to get back to the OGC attorney within a day or two.

Thanks --

Lynnann Hitchens  
Director, Office of Resources, Operations, and Management  
Office of Administration and Resources Management  
P: 202-564-3184  
M: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

**To:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Frye, Tony (Robert)[frye.robert@epa.gov]; Palich, Christian[palich.christian@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]; Shimmin, Kaitlyn[shimmin.kaitlyn@epa.gov]  
**From:** Rodrick, Christian  
**Sent:** Mon 4/16/2018 9:53:57 PM  
**Subject:** RE: 4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx  
4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V2\_OCIR.docx

All,

Apologies. I did not have Ryan’s most updated doc. Attached are our updates included in Ryan’s version from 5:36PM this evening.

*Christian Rodrick*  
*Special Assistant*  
*Congressional Affairs U.S. EPA*  
*O: (202) 564-4828*

---

**From:** Rodrick, Christian  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2018 5:45 PM  
**To:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Frye, Tony (Robert) <frye.robert@epa.gov>; Palich, Christian <palich.christian@epa.gov>; Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Shimmin, Kaitlyn <shimmin.kaitlyn@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: 4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx

All,

Attached are updates w/ press quotes for the **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** sections. We have updated **Ex. 5**  
**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** I will defer to OPA for any additional issues or edits.

Thanks,

*Christian Rodrick*  
*Special Assistant*  
*Congressional Affairs U.S. EPA*  
*O: (202) 564-4828*

---

**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2018 4:56 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Frye, Tony (Robert) <frye.robert@epa.gov>; Rodrick, Christian <rodrick.christian@epa.gov>; Palich, Christian <palich.christian@epa.gov>; Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Shimmin, Kaitlyn <shimmin.kaitlyn@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: 4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx

Tony/CRod-could you assist w this?  
Sent from my iPhone  
On Apr 16, 2018, at 4:45 PM, Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov> wrote:

Attached are my initial changes to the Hot Topics page. I could use some help in fairly short order to review my edits and to add additional issues which we know he will be asked about.

Can you help get your offices to turn this around soon?

<4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx>



**To:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Frye, Tony (Robert)[frye.robert@epa.gov]; Palich, Christian[palich.christian@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]; Shimmin, Kaitlyn[shimmin.kaitlyn@epa.gov]  
**From:** Rodrick, Christian  
**Sent:** Mon 4/16/2018 9:45:07 PM  
**Subject:** RE: 4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx  
4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V2\_OCIR.docx

All,

Attached are updates w/ press quotes for the **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** sections. We have updated **Ex. 5**  
**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** I will defer to OPA for any additional issues or edits.

Thanks,

*Christian Rodrick*  
*Special Assistant*  
*Congressional Affairs U.S. EPA*  
*O: (202) 564-4828*

---

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**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2018 4:56 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Frye, Tony (Robert) <frye.robert@epa.gov>; Rodrick, Christian <rodrick.christian@epa.gov>; Palich, Christian <palich.christian@epa.gov>; Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Shimmin, Kaitlyn <shimmin.kaitlyn@epa.gov>  
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Sent from my iPhone

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Can you help get your offices to turn this around soon?

<4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx>

**To:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Palich, Christian[palich.christian@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]  
**From:** Jackson, Ryan  
**Sent:** Mon 4/16/2018 9:36:19 PM  
**Subject:** 4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS VRJ edits.docx  
4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS VRJ edits.docx

Use this version given that latest E&E story.

**To:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**From:** Jackson, Ryan  
**Sent:** Mon 4/16/2018 8:45:50 PM  
**Subject:** 4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx  
[4-11-2018 - FY19 Budget Hearing HOT TOPICS V1.docx](#)

Attached are my initial changes to the Hot Topics page. I could use some help in fairly short order to review my edits and to add additional issues which we know he will be asked about.

Can you help get your offices to turn this around soon?

**To:** Greaves, Holly[greaves.holly@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Fri 2/9/2018 7:11:37 PM  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: Holly,

If it's not too late, **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

---

**From:** Greaves, Holly  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 1:13 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: Holly,

Could you also add, **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 1:09 PM  
**To:** Greaves, Holly <greaves.holly@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** APPROVAL: Holly,

I'm just going to say this:

Also, I'm hearing that Region 9 will be facing a 10 percent personnel reduction by the end of fiscal year 2018, according to goals laid out by the EPA's Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Can you confirm this for me?

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox

---

**From:** Fimrite, Peter [mailto:PFimrite@sfchronicle.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 12:58 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Questions about EPA morale

Are your comments below off the record or can I quote you on any of them? You have them in quotes with your name attached. I would like to quote a couple of those answers. Also, I'm hearing that Region 9 will be facing a 10 percent personnel reduction by the end of fiscal year 2018, according to goals laid out by the EPA's Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Can you confirm this for me?

I definitely would like to tell about the actions of Congress rather than leaving the tea leaves of proposals. Can you give me some idea about what the budget passed last night means for the EPA in terms of cuts?

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan [mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 09, 2018 6:26 AM  
**To:** Fimrite, Peter <PFimrite@sfchronicle.com>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Questions about EPA morale

Peter –

**Off-the-record**, in regards to budget proposals would just remind you that this morning the Senate passed a two-year budget that will fund the government. Rather than leaving the tea leaves of proposals, believe your readers would like to know the action that Congress has taken, which includes passing a budget that again funds the entire government for the next two years.

- **Today, Friday, February 9, 2018, Congress Passed A Budget That Will Fund The Government For The Next Two Years.** “After a temporary lapse in government funding that lasted through the night, Congress passed a pricey two-year spending deal early Friday that will also fund the government for an additional six weeks. The government temporarily closed after Congress failed to pass a government funding bill before a midnight deadline

due to the objections of one senator, shutting down non-essential government services. In the end, a bipartisan cohort of lawmakers supported the \$400 billion agreement. Shortly after 1:30 a.m. ET, the Senate voted, 71-28, to approve a two-year spending bill that would reopen the government, and the House passed it at 5:30 a.m. with the support of 240 members. Trump tweeted Wednesday morning that he had signed the bill, officially ending the brief shutdown.” (NBC News, 02/09/18)

Additionally, **below are some on-the-record responses** to your questions. Some of these answers took a while to find and we hope that you will be able to use as much as possible.

Jahan

**From:** Fimrite, Peter [<mailto:PFimrite@sfchronicle.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 3:54 PM

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Questions about EPA morale

Thanks for getting back to me. Here are some questions and issues I'd like to have addressed:

The folks I've talked to say morale is as low as it has ever been at Region 9 and that many long time employees have been taking early retirement, buyouts or quitting as a result, mostly, in response to what they say is a de-emphasis on science and environmental protection, the core work of the EPA.

- **“From Administrator Pruitt’s focus on cleaning up toxic Superfund sites, his leadership during the government shutdown that kept the agency open and paid every employee, to EPA’s Region 9 where just 11 employees took an early retirement and nearly a quarter of the employees are working despite being eligible to retire, morale is great at EPA.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

Three former employees and another current one say the office is short staffed, that Superfund sites have been prioritized, with some now on the back burner, and that the words “climate change” were scrubbed from contracts and grants, a form of censorship.

- **“Administrator Pruitt has placed a renewed focused on cleaning up toxic Superfund sites. We are reviewing every grant and 99.84 percent of all grants have been awarded.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

Another complaint is that industry and business metrics have been brought in to change the culture of the office and downsize and streamline environmental regulation.

- **“Administrator Pruitt is proud to streamline regulations, which is creating regulatory certainty.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

Many have told me off the record that they are scared to say anything and generally speak with each other in winks and whispers or out of the office because they fear being exposed by the consulting firm Definers Public Affairs, which they say has spent the past year investigating agency employees critical of the Trump administration and Pruitt. Is this true?

- **“No this is not accurate. Like any government agency, all EPA employees are subjected to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and in terms of the FOIAs nearly all are aimed at political, not career employees.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

Many are also critical of the fact that the two people considered for the administrator job both worked in the oil, gas or mining industry. Can you confirm that Ryan Flynn and Chris Paul were considered for the position. How is the search for a new administrator going and what are you looking for in the leader?

- **“We don’t discuss who have been or not been interviewed for the Region 9 Administrator or any other**

position. The Administration is carefully considering many highly qualified candidates for Region 9 and will announce another great regional administrator soon.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

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**From:** Wilcox, Jahan [<mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 07, 2018 12:26 PM  
**To:** Fimrite, Peter <[PFimrite@sfchronicle.com](mailto:PFimrite@sfchronicle.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Questions about EPA morale

Call me or send me specific examples and I will do my best to address them.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 3:20 PM  
**To:** Fimrite, Peter <[PFimrite@sfchronicle.com](mailto:PFimrite@sfchronicle.com)>; Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Questions about EPA morale

Will handle.

---

**From:** Fimrite, Peter [<mailto:PFimrite@sfchronicle.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 2:36 PM  
**To:** Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Questions about EPA morale

I'm working on a story about all the changes occurring at the EPA and the effect it has had on employees in the various regions, particularly region 9. I was hoping for a comment from the administration or a spokesman. Please call me at 415-777-8454.

*Peter Fimrite*  
*Staff Writer*  
*San Francisco Chronicle*  
*Work: 415-777-8454*  
*Cell:* **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
*Email:* [pfimrite@sfchronicle.com](mailto:pfimrite@sfchronicle.com)  
*Twitter:* [@pfimrite](https://twitter.com/pfimrite)

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Mon 12/18/2017 7:00:11 PM  
**Subject:** RE: follow up questions on Definers Public Affairs contract

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**From:** Friedman, Lisa [mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** follow up questions on Definers Public Affairs contract

Hi folks. I have a few follow up questions on the nature of the contract with Definers I hope you can answer.

1. The contract itself notes that it was a sole-source notification, a no-bid contract. Can you explain to me why this qualified as a no-bid contract. Are they the only company that can provide this service? Unique in some way? Is there any written justification that was conducted that you can provide me?
2. You noted in an earlier response to me that in a sole-source notification a notice must be placed on federal websites to other vendors may provide proof of their ability to conduct the services. In this case, you noted, one additional vendor did so. Can you please provide the name and/or response itself of the company that responded?
3. The contract notes that Definers is self-designated as a disadvantaged business. Executives at Definers said they believe that is a clerical error and that they did not purposely claim any disadvantaged status. Can you please explain to me why the company is designated as such, how that came to be, and if any benefits were incurred to the company because of that status.

Thanks so much,  
Lisa

--  
Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times  
(202) 862-0306 office  
Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Mon 2/12/2018 10:37:31 PM  
**Subject:** Re: APPROVAL: SF Chron / Employee Morale

Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2018, at 5:33 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

**From:** Jackson, Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 7:04 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: SF Chron / Employee Morale

Thank you.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 5:18 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** APPROVAL: SF Chron / Employee Morale

Ryan –

The San Francisco Chronicle is doing a story on employee morale and why we don’t have a regional head, etc. Honestly only 11 employees in Region 9 took the early retirement and a quarter are working past their retirement, so clearly morale has never been higher. Below are the questions and suggested responses.

The folks I’ve talked to say morale is as low as it has ever been at Region 9 and that many long time employees have been taking early retirement, buyouts or quitting as a result, mostly, in response to what they say is a de-emphasis on science and environmental protection, the core work of the EPA.

• 

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Many are also critical of the fact that the two people considered for the administrator job both worked in the oil, gas or mining industry. Can you confirm that Ryan Flynn and Chris Paul were considered for the position. How is the search for a new administrator going and what are you looking for in the leader?

• 

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Three former employees and another current one say the office is short staffed, that Superfund sites have been prioritized, with some now on the back burner, and that the words “climate change” were scrubbed from contracts and grants, a form of censorship.



- **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Another complaint is that industry and business metrics have been brought in to change the culture of the office and downsize and streamline environmental regulation.

- **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Many have told me off the record that they are scared to say anything and generally speak with each other in winks and whispers or out of the office because they fear being exposed by the consulting firm Definers Public Affairs, which they say has spent the past year investigating agency employees critical of the Trump administration and Pruitt. Is this true?

- **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Jahan Wilcox

EPA

Strategic Communications Advisor

Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Tue 11/14/2017 8:54:12 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Lead Enforcement Actions

Nope, thank you! Just curious

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:51 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Lead Enforcement Actions

She is in Contract Officer training so she can administer the Definers contract that we are working on (Jahan’s request). She needs to do online training to get certified. We can’t have a contract without a contracting officer.

Please let me know if you need more info.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6** **(mobile)**

---

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:39 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Lead Enforcement Actions

What training?

---

**From:** Lynn, Tricia  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:38 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Lead Enforcement Actions

I will be in training all day on 11/14 and unavailable. Please contact Nancy Grantham or Julia Valentine for assistance.

Thanks!

**To:** Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Jahan Wilcox (wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wed 2/7/2018 3:43:50 PM  
**Subject:** RE: E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Fine with me, but looping in Nancy and Jahan to confirm.

**From:** Ringel, Aaron  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 10:39 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** E&C Pallone QFR on Definers Contract

Liz/Troy,

Ranking Member Pallone asked for a copy of the contract with Definers along with the scope of work in his questions for the record after the Administrators 12/7 hearing (question/response below). Have we provided this elsewhere or has it been released as part of a FOIA possibly?

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 |           |
| Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 | Thoughts? |

33. PALLONE: Please provide a copy of the contract between EPA and Definers Corp. including any statement of work.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Response:                    | Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 |
| Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 |                              |

**Aaron E. Ringel**  
*Deputy Associate Administrator*  
*Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations*  
*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
  
W: 202.564.4373  
[Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov](mailto:Ringel.Aaron@epa.gov)

**To:** Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wed 1/3/2018 7:55:36 PM  
**Subject:** RE: EPA contract documentation request

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:52 PM  
**To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Aarons, Kyle <Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: EPA contract documentation request

**From:** Seiger, Ryan [mailto:Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:09 PM  
**To:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Brain, Michael <Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov>; McCarragher, Ward <Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov>; Dedrick, Kathy <Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA contract documentation request

Aaron and Troy:

Per your request, enclosed is a formal request letter from Ranking Member DeFazio seeing additional information on the process that EPA followed in executing its contract with Definers for news analysis and brief service. A hard copy is being mailed today as well.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Ryan C. Seiger  
Staff Director/Senior Counsel  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
505 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-0060

**From:** Lyons, Troy [mailto:lyons.troy@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 5:37 PM  
**To:** Seiger, Ryan <Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov>  
**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Brain, Michael <Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov>; McCarragher, Ward <Ward.McCarragher@mail.house.gov>; Dedrick, Kathy <Kathy.Dedrick@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: EPA contract documentation request

Ryan:

Formal inquiries help us keep track of the numerous inquiries we receive from both the majority and the minority. We ask for a formal submission for tracking purposes as the inquiry will be assigned to the appropriate staffer. Also, formal requests help us process these requests in the order in which they are received.

We will continue to respond to requests such as TA and others requests through simple emails but ask oversight requests

I don't think Aaron's note implied you all do not have oversight authority, but with energy and commerce being our main committee of jurisdiction we want to ensure they are looped in as they are likely working on a similar request.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 18, 2017, at 4:45 PM, Seiger, Ryan <[Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov)> wrote:

Aaron:

On your response to my information request, a few questions...first, it it now EPA policy that routine oversight requests from Committee staff need now be formal letter requests from the Members? Also, is this request for a letter coming from OCIR or from the agency at large?

Can you also provide me with a basis for your claim that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure does not have independent oversight jurisdiction over EPA?

Finally, on these apparent new rules, do they apply both to the T and I majority and the minority? Are there any other oversight processes that have been put in place this year that we need to be aware of?

Ryan C. Seiger

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment

(202) 225-0060

On Dec 18, 2017, at 2:42 PM, Ringel, Aaron <[ringel.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:ringel.aaron@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hey Ryan, could you please put your request in an official letter? Additionally, have you coordinated with E&C on this? I believe EPA oversight resides within their committee's jurisdiction.

Best,

-Aaron

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Bodine, Susan[bodine.susan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Jahan Wilcox (wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thur 12/14/2017 8:44:40 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Request for comment on Definers contract, deadline end of day

I know exactly where this leak came from.

---

**From:** Rebecca Leber [mailto:rleber@motherjones.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 3:36 PM  
**To:** Press <Press@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Request for comment on Definers contract, deadline end of day

Writing to request comment on federal records showing that the EPA has hired Definers Corp., a PR firm associated with GOP campaigns, on a \$120,000 federal contract to conduct media monitoring.

What work was Definers hired for?

Can you comment on Jahan Wilcox's connections to the staff at Definers, and if he or any other staff played a role in facilitating the contract?

My deadline is end of the day, thank you

Rebecca Leber

**To:** hewitt.james@epa.gov[hewitt.james@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thur 12/14/2017 7:50:58 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

Who is the R8 guy? Has he started yet?

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:46 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

Each region compiles clips each day – and early on we had asked them to send them to OPA – they all compile them in different ways.

Also, we have finally awarded the Definers contract (media service that Jahan had recommended), so we will start getting clips from them shortly. We have a startup call with them next week – and will include others on the call.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:44 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

What's the deal with these emails? Why does she send these around and who all gets these/who decides what is included/not included?

---

**From:** Henderson, Dedre  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** Henderson, Dedre <Henderson.Dedre@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

Environmental Headlines – prepared by the Region 8 Librarians – December 14, 2017

Note: Many newspapers are beginning to adopt subscription policies to govern access to their online editions. In some cases, this involves the creation of a free user account; in others, paid subscription is necessary to view more than a set number of articles (usually 20) per month. If you have difficulty accessing the news articles you need, please contact the library ([library-reg8@epa.gov](mailto:library-reg8@epa.gov) or (303) 312-7226) for assistance. Please note that the new Region 8 intranet site does not allow access to older headlines; if you need assistance retrieving a news article from a previous week or month, please contact the library.

## COLORADO

Crestone sues Colorado for overlapping drilling applications  
<http://www.denverpost.com/2017/12/13/crestone-sues-colorado-for-overlapping-drilling-applications/>

Fort Collins considers changes to oil and gas buffers

<http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2017/12/14/fort-collins-considers-changes-oil-and-gas-buffers/949529001/>

Asbestos being removed from retired high school

<https://the-journal.com/articles/77936-asbestos-being-removed-from-retired-high-school>

## **MONTANA**

Plan for mosquito-control drone grounded

[http://www.dailyinterlake.com/local\\_news/20171213/plan\\_for\\_mosquito-control\\_drone\\_grounded](http://www.dailyinterlake.com/local_news/20171213/plan_for_mosquito-control_drone_grounded)

## **UTAH**

Another Red Air Day forecast for Salt Lake County

<http://fox13now.com/2017/12/13/another-red-air-day-forecast-for-salt-lake-county/>

Feds give initial OK to Utah's application to build Lake Powell pipeline - but with a major, unexpected twist

<http://www.sltrib.com/news/2017/12/13/feds-give-initial-ok-to-utahs-application-to-build-lake-powell-pipeline-but-with-a-major-unexpected-twist/>

## **NATIONAL**

What Republicans Think About Climate Change — in Maps

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/12/14/climate/republicans-global-warming-maps.html?rref=collection%2Fsectioncollection%2Fclimate>

EPA Chemical Safety Nominee Drops Out Amid Strong Opposition

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2017/12/13/us/politics/ap-us-congress-epa-dourson.html>

Anti-Pipeline Group Goes Back to Work Against Keystone XL

<https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2017/12/14/us/14reuters-usa-pipelines-keystone.html>

Fracking sites may raise the risk of underweight babies, new study says

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/12/13/fracking-sites-raise-the-risk-of-low-birth-weight-babies-new-study-says/?utm\\_term=.6bfc8a7ca222](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/12/13/fracking-sites-raise-the-risk-of-low-birth-weight-babies-new-study-says/?utm_term=.6bfc8a7ca222)

Sustainability Careers Have Gotten A Trump Bump — At The Local Level

<http://www.cpr.org/news/story/sustainability-careers-have-gotten-a-trump-bump-at-the-local-level>



**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thur 12/14/2017 7:50:28 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

Okay great, thanks. Once that is up and running, Dedre doesn't need to send these anymore. I just don't really know who all is filtering/deciding what is being sent out and who gets it...

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:46 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

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**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

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**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:44 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Environmental Headlines December 14, 2017

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**To:** Henderson, Dedre <Henderson.Dedre@epa.gov>  
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Fort Collins considers changes to oil and gas buffers

<http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2017/12/14/fort-collins-considers-changes-oil-and-gas-buffers/949529001/>

Asbestos being removed from retired high school

<https://the-journal.com/articles/77936-asbestos-being-removed-from-retired-high-school>

## **MONTANA**

Plan for mosquito-control drone grounded

[http://www.dailyinterlake.com/local\\_news/20171213/plan\\_for\\_mosquito-control\\_drone\\_grounded](http://www.dailyinterlake.com/local_news/20171213/plan_for_mosquito-control_drone_grounded)

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<http://fox13now.com/2017/12/13/another-red-air-day-forecast-for-salt-lake-county/>

Feds give initial OK to Utah's application to build Lake Powell pipeline - but with a major, unexpected twist

<http://www.sltrib.com/news/2017/12/13/feds-give-initial-ok-to-utahs-application-to-build-lake-powell-pipeline-but-with-a-major-unexpected-twist/>

## **NATIONAL**

What Republicans Think About Climate Change — in Maps

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/12/14/climate/republicans-global-warming-maps.html?rref=collection%2Fsectioncollection%2Fclimate>

EPA Chemical Safety Nominee Drops Out Amid Strong Opposition

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2017/12/13/us/politics/ap-us-congress-epa-dourson.html>

Anti-Pipeline Group Goes Back to Work Against Keystone XL

<https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2017/12/14/us/14reuters-usa-pipelines-keystone.html>

Fracking sites may raise the risk of underweight babies, new study says

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/12/13/fracking-sites-raise-the-risk-of-low-birth-weight-babies-new-study-says/?utm\\_term=.6bfc8a7ca222](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/12/13/fracking-sites-raise-the-risk-of-low-birth-weight-babies-new-study-says/?utm_term=.6bfc8a7ca222)

Sustainability Careers Have Gotten A Trump Bump — At The Local Level

<http://www.cpr.org/news/story/sustainability-careers-have-gotten-a-trump-bump-at-the-local-level>

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wed 4/25/2018 1:46:49 PM  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Small edits:

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 8:45 AM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Below is a statement regarding hearing prep that we can use throughout the day:

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**From:** Friedman, Lisa [mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:32 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Request for comment on hearings

Hi Liz & Jahan,

I'm running a story today that advances the congressional hearings at which Mr. Pruitt will testify Thursday.

The story will include and make reference to a document that I have, entitled "Hot Topics." The story will characterize this document as outlining Mr. Pruitt's potential responses to likely questions during the hearings.

Can you tell me who drafted this document? I'd also like to get a comment on whether it accurately describes answers that Mr. Pruitt has been prepped by staff to give.

I won't attach the actual document but for purposes of verifying its validity with you, this with you it begins:

HOT TOPICS

**Condo**  
Kevin Minoli, EPA's principal deputy general counsel, in a March 30 memo determined that the rate for 30 consecutive days would have equated to a monthly rent of\$1,500. Minoli described that as " reasonable market value." He also found it did not constitute a "prohibited gift." I would be happy to provide that memo to your staff.

These, according to the document, are some of the other topics he is prepared to address — several of which I will make reference to in the story:

*SCIF; Sweeping the office; Biometric Locks; Bullet proof vehicles and tires; Office Decoration; Netjets; G7 Trip; Staffing (Raises; Samantha Dravis; Alleged Reassignment of Staff); Sue and Settle; Super Fund Task Force; Travel; First Class Travel; Morocco; Non-Commercial Flights; Homebuilders Association Hotel; Advisory Panels (membership, grants); Definers Contract; Chlorpyrifos; Climate change strategic plan; Enforcement; Funding; DOJ Funding; emails; Environmental Justice; War on Lead; IRIS; grants process; meetings with industry; Narragansett Bay; Regulatory Task Force; Reorganizations; and VERA/ViSP.*

Finally, the story will point out that, according to the preparations shown in this document, Mr. Pruitt may say that other people were responsible for the bulk of the recent spending and ethics issues like frequent first class travel, the SCIF and pay raises.

I will need a comment on this by 11 a.m, and of course if you have any other comment on Mr. Pruitt's plans for testifying before Congress tomorrow I will certainly include. I'll be out of pocket for the next hour but you can also call me on my cell after 8:30 a.m. if you'd like to speak directly.

Thanks so much,

Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times  
(202) 862-0306 office

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 cell

**To:** Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; hewitt.james@epa.gov[hewitt.james@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Jahan Wilcox (wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Kaitlyn Shimmin (Shimmin.Kaitlyn@epa.gov)[Shimmin.Kaitlyn@epa.gov]; Palich, Christian[palich.christian@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Tue 10/10/2017 9:34:02 PM  
**Subject:** Clips for YouTube

Ryan wants us to pull together clips from the nomination hearing, **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Liz Bowman  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Office: 202-564-3293

**To:** Bennett, Tate[Bennett.Tate@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov];  
Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Fri 10/20/2017 4:31:20 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Good line from Fox interview

Nice, we need to find this clip. Was this radio or TV? Jahan, do I need to ask Nancy again about definers?

-----Original Message-----

From: Bennett, Tate  
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 12:27 PM  
To: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>;  
Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
Subject: Good line from Fox interview

Critics have suggested the EPA chief would be hesitant to take on the pair of Fortune 500 companies financially responsible for the expensive cleanup. But today Pruitt emphatically pledged the full authority of his agency to force an effective cleanup.

Sent from my iPad

**To:** Hull, George[Hull.George@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Flynn, Mike[Flynn.Mike@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thur 6/29/2017 2:17:22 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

Thank you.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2017 10:16 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Flynn, Mike <Flynn.Mike@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

I'll contact our budget team and get the contract process started today. - George

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2017, at 10:12 AM, Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)> wrote:

George, that is fine to open up the competitive bidding process, but that needs to happen TODAY. This has been dragging on for weeks and weeks, and we don't need this to take any longer.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2017 9:13 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

Jahan,

I spoke with our budget team yesterday. Because this would be a \$ 120,000 contract, we cannot move forward without going through a competitive bidding process. In addition, this cost is more than OPA's budget. In the past, we have solicited funds from the program offices to reduce the portion covered by OPA. Other offices have contributed in exchange for receiving the clips once a day.

I can start the process of soliciting funds and competing the contract. If you and Liz want me to proceed, I'll get a time estimate from our budget team.

Our contact at Definers has still not returned my request for a demo. - George

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2017, at 8:50 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

George –

I don't care how this happens but we need to make this happen as quickly as possible.

I'm trying to get a clip from an MSNBC show that is time sensitive and can't grab it because it's not online yet. We miss a lot of clips that happen overnight or on the weekends and we need a solution to fix this.

Thank you.

Jahan

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

That makes sense. I'm asking Joe to give me a demo. I would do it on Thursday, but **Personal Matters / Ex. 6**  
**Personal Matters / Ex. 6** If you would like to be part of the demo, I could find another day. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

Thanks man! I am out on Friday but the rapid response clips are helpful and the interns doing a great job but we miss stuff late at night.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

I'm trying to get a time set up with him on Friday. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers

Where are we on setting up a call with Joe. I really don't need to do a call, I know the quality of their product. Last night a story about in the NYT and would've been nice to have someone at the helm to send that out as it happened.

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)



**To:** Hull, George[Hull.George@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Flynn, Mike[Flynn.Mike@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thur 6/29/2017 2:12:32 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

George, that is fine to open up the competitive bidding process, but that needs to happen TODAY. This has been dragging on for weeks and weeks, and we don't need this to take any longer.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2017 9:13 AM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers

Jahan,

I spoke with our budget team yesterday. Because this would be a \$ 120,000 contract, we cannot move forward without going through a competitive bidding process. In addition, this cost is more than OPA's budget. In the past, we have solicited funds from the program offices to reduce the portion covered by OPA. Other offices have contributed in exchange for receiving the clips once a day.

I can start the process of soliciting funds and competing the contract. If you and Liz want me to proceed, I'll get a time estimate from our budget team.

Our contact at Definers has still not returned my request for a demo. - George

Sent from my iPhone  
On Jun 29, 2017, at 8:50 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

George –

I don't care how this happens but we need to make this happen as quickly as possible.

I'm trying to get a clip from an MSNBC show that is time sensitive and can't grab it because it's not online yet. We miss a lot of clips that happen overnight or on the weekends and we need a solution to fix this.

Thank you.

Jahan

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

That makes sense. I'm asking Joe to give me a demo. I would do it on Thursday, but I have to  
If you would like to be part of the demo, I could find another day. - George

Personal Matters / Ex. 6

Personal Matters / Ex. 6

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

Thanks man! I am out on Friday but the rapid response clips are helpful and the interns doing a great job but we miss

stuff late at night.

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers

I'm trying to get a time set up with him on Friday. - George

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** Hull, George <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers

Where are we on setting up a call with Joe. I really don't need to do a call, I know the quality of their product. Last night a story about in the NYT and would've been nice to have someone at the helm to send that out as it happened.

Jahan Wilcox

EPA

Strategic Communications Advisor

Work Cell: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Mon 6/19/2017 3:10:07 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Proposal...

So who needs to sign it?

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 10:59 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Proposal...

**Personal Privacy / Ex. 6**

Attached is the contract.

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**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>; 'jpounder@definerscorp.com' <jpounder@definerscorp.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Proposal...

George –

I am adding you to this email. Can you please contact Joe Pounder and circle back with me. I believe Definers is able to do morning summaries or morning media matrixs that we can circulate within the agency to interested people and they are also capable of doing live-time alerts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Thank you,

Jahan

---

**From:** Joe Pounder [mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 5:26 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Updated Proposal...

Mr. Wilcox,

Please find attached an updated proposal with examples of actual alerts and daily matrix. Please let us know if you have any other questions. Our plan is when it is rolled out to clients, these alerts will be compiled into our Definers Console where they will be also stored and searchable in addition to emailed directly to inboxes. Thanks again.

--  
Joe Pounder  
jpounder@definerscorp.com  
571-290-5460

**To:** Jahan Wilcox (wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Wed 7/26/2017 1:29:28 PM  
**Subject:** Definers?

Has George figured this out yet? Do I need to follow-up with him again?

Liz Bowman  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Office: 202-564-3293

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Thur 5/25/2017 9:47:53 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Proposal...

Lets talk about this on Tuesday.

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Updated Proposal...

Also was going to submit this too but Definers Public Affairs can/should run our war-room clips (see attachment and proposal).

Alerting clips, transcripts in live time is a full-time job and because of the 24-7 news cycle it's not a one person job either.

I believe their sister company AR did this for SP during his confirmation.

I was waiting for JP to be done before bringing this proposal to the group.

I've always been working with **Personal Matters / Ex. 6** in revamping our our paper product goes out and to who it goes to. This project should've been finished two weeks ago as Nancy has been helpful.  
Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Pounder <jpounder@definerscorp.com>  
**Date:** May 22, 2017 at 4:26:28 PM CDT  
**To:** wilcox.jahan@epa.gov  
**Subject:** Updated Proposal...

Mr. Wilcox,

Please find attached an updated proposal with examples of actual alerts and daily matrix. Please let us know if you have any other questions. Our plan is when it is rolled out to clients, these alerts will be compiled into our Definers Console where they will be also stored and searchable in addition to emailed directly to inboxes.  
Thanks again.

--  
Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**Organizer:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Brown, Rayna  
**Location:** DCRoomRRB61233California25pp/DC-Ronald-Reagan-OAM  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** IMMEDIATE ACTION >> Congressional - Oversight request on Definers Inc. contract  
**Start Time:** Tue 1/9/2018 3:30:00 PM  
**End Time:** Tue 1/9/2018 4:30:00 PM  
**Required Attendees:** Wilson, Jessica; Quarles, Michael; Dews, Donna; Scott, Elaine; Gosnell, Jody  
**Optional Attendees:** Stewart, Keith

REQUEST FOR YOU IMMEDIATE ACTION Re: Congressional - Oversight request on Definers Inc. contract

Hello all—

Please read the attached email as it will be the subject of this meeting and be prepared to provide all input and dialogue necessary to respond to this inquiry. When arriving at this meeting, please be prepared as follows:

- Read the email and the requested documents and
- Bring your laptop and any other pertinent materials not in the file

This is a top priority and is due today, January 9, 2018. We are also jointly responding to multiple FOIA requests for this same requirement. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

**To:** Stewart, Keith[Stewart.Keith@epa.gov]; Plater, Lottie[Plater.Lottie@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Vaughn, Celia  
**Sent:** Tue 1/9/2018 1:41:25 AM  
**Subject:** REQUEST FOR YOU IMMEDIATE ACTION Re: Congressional - Oversight request on Definers Inc. contract  
[DeFazio Definers 1-3-18.pdf](#)  
[Whitehouse News Analysis 12-19-17.pdf](#)  
[Whitehouse News Analysis 1-5-18.docx](#)  
[Pallone Definers 1-5-18.pdf](#)

Hello Keith,

I believe the procurement action in question (i.e. award to **Definers Inc.** to provide news analysis services to OPA) may have been processed for the Office of Administration by HPOD.

I copied Rayna Brown in anticipation that this may have been under her service center.

In addition to reviewing the attached proposed response to Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (i.e. attached MS word document), please have the cognizant contracting officer forward to me ASAP the following items:

- A copy of the initial public solicitation or notice related to the “news analysis and brief service” work put out for bid
- A copy of all formal contract responses or other indications of interest to this solicitation or notice from prospective companies seeking to bid on this work
- A copy of the final contract with Definers
- A copy of the contract between EPA and any company that provided similar media monitoring services to the agency *immediately prior* to the awarding of the contract with Definers (press reports indicate that this contract was with a company called Bulletin Intelligence, LLC)
- Copies of [any other] documents related to the procurement of services with Definers as well as the contract EPA concluded with Definers for these services

Thank you in advance for your immediate response.

*Celia M. Vaughn*

Chief of Staff, USEPA Headquarters, Office of Acquisition Management  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W. Washington, DC 20460  
Mail Code 3805R (202) 564-1047

---

**From:** Cooper, Marian  
**Sent:** Monday, January 08, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** Patrick, Kimberly <Patrick.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Legare, Pamela <Legare.Pamela@epa.gov>; Vaughn, Celia <Vaughn.Celia@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Vizian, Donna <Vizian.Donna@epa.gov>; Showman, John <Showman.John@epa.gov>; Bell, Matthew <Bell.Matthew@epa.gov>; Aarons, Kyle <Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov>; Knapp, Kristien <Knapp.Kristien@epa.gov>; Gantt, Melissa <Gantt.Melissa@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Oversight request on Definers Inc. contract

Kimberly, Pam and Celia,

Please see the request below. Kyle from Congressional Affairs, is coordinating this response. Can you please comments on the draft response and the documents requested? Please copy Matt and me on your response.

Thank you and Happy New Year!

Marian

Marian Pechmann Cooper  
Chief of Staff  
Office of Administration and Resources Management

William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building-NORTH (3330)  
Washington, DC 20460  
office number -- 202 564-0620  
office fax -- 202 564-0233



---

**From:** Aarons, Kyle  
**Sent:** Friday, January 05, 2018 10:45 AM  
**To:** Cooper, Marian <[Cooper.Marian@epa.gov](mailto:Cooper.Marian@epa.gov)>; Bell, Matthew <[Bell.Matthew@epa.gov](mailto:Bell.Matthew@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Knapp, Kristien <[Knapp.Kristien@epa.gov](mailto:Knapp.Kristien@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Oversight request on Definers Inc. contract

Hi Marian and Matt – We are working to respond to a couple oversight requests about a contract (now canceled) with Definers Inc. to provide news analysis services to OPA. We worked with OPA to draft the attached response, but will need some help from OAM as well.

Please ask OAM to review the attached draft and let us know of any feedback. We'd also like any documentation of the solicitation and contract that we would release for a FOIA request. Specifically, from the incoming letters:

- A copy of the initial public solicitation or notice related to the “news analysis and brief service” work put out for bid
- A copy of all formal contract responses or other indications of interest to this solicitation or notice from prospective companies seeking to bid on this work
- A copy of the final contract with Definers
- A copy of the contract between EPA and any company that provided similar media monitoring services to the agency *immediately prior* to the awarding of the contract with Definers (press reports indicate that this contract was with a company called Bulletin Intelligence, LLC)
- Copies of [any other] documents related to the procurement of services with Definers as well as the contract EPA concluded with Definers for these services

We don't need any communications at this point. Please ask OAM to flag anything that may contain Confidential Business Information (we'll also have OGC review).

Please let me know if COB Wednesday (1/10) would be reasonable for this.

I'm of course happy to talk to OAM directly if you could put me in touch with the right folks.

Thanks,  
Kyle

Kyle Aarons  
Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
202-564-7351



**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**From:** Dolan, Sheila  
**Sent:** Wed 6/20/2018 12:43:04 PM  
**Subject:** RE: PRISM Workflow Reminder regarding APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE)  
[Jofoc Definers.docx](#)

Was this ever awarded? I don't see it on the SAP spreadsheet.

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 8:24 AM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Dolan, Sheila <dolan.sheila@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: PRISM Workflow Reminder regarding APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE)

Hi Jody

Bryan and Michael Quarles contracts that had APP's.

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 8:23 AM  
**To:** Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Dolan, Sheila <[dolan.sheila@epa.gov](mailto:dolan.sheila@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: PRISM Workflow Reminder regarding APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE)

Donna,

There is not enough information provided for me to assist you. Please follow up with Sheila Dolan to resolve your concerns. Jody

*Jody Gosnell  
Contracting Officer/Team Leader  
Headquarters Procurement Operations Division  
Office of Acquisition Management  
Office: (202) 564-4353  
Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 7:28 AM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: PRISM Workflow Reminder regarding APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE)

Previous assigned PRs that had APP's prepared.

---

**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 19, 2018 6:36 AM  
**To:** Dolan, Sheila <dolan.sheila@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: PRISM Workflow Reminder regarding APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE)

Hi Sheila,

I am not sure why I this email was sent to me. I don't support any OGC/OA programs. Can you assist Donna with her request. Jody

*Jody Gosnell  
Contracting Officer/Team Leader  
Headquarters Procurement Operations Division  
Office of Acquisition Management  
Office: (202) 564-4353  
Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Monday, June 18, 2018 3:07 PM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Dolan, Sheila <dolan.sheila@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: PRISM Workflow Reminder regarding APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE)

Jody

Please take my name off of OGC/OA APP's. Thank you.

Donna Dews

---

**From:** [EAS.System@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:EAS.System@epamail.epa.gov) <[EAS.System@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:EAS.System@epamail.epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 17, 2018 6:55 AM  
**To:** Dews, Donna  
**Subject:** PRISM Workflow Reminder regarding APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE)

APP APP-OA-18-00001 (BASE) has been in your inbox for 133 working days awaiting your review.

Please review the APP and take appropriate action at your earliest convenience. You may access PRISM by clicking <https://eas.epa.gov/>.

**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]; Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]; Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Tue 12/12/2017 8:16:34 PM  
**Subject:** The File

Rayna

I sent you an email from my personal email that I would be **Ex. 6** (b) (6). I  
checked my email and I had not gotten an email from Definers. **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Ex. 5** Sorry for any inconvenience. I will get file to Keith and all who want to see it tomorrow when I return to the office  
and follow up with Julia Coltrone at Definers.

Thank you.

Donna Dews

**To:** Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Lynn, Tricia[lynn.tricia@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Fri 11/17/2017 1:33:33 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Thanks so much

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

---

**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 8:32 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Lynn, Tricia <lynn.tricia@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Quarles, Michael <Quarles.Michael@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Nancy,

Once we have the final documents, we will take one final look at them and if everything looks good we will post it. I would like to post it by no later than Wednesday morning. Thanks, Jody

*Jody Gosnell*  
*Contracting Officer/Team Leader*  
*Headquarters Procurement Operations Division*  
*Office of Acquisition Management*  
*Office: (202) 564-4353*  
*Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2017 1:43 PM  
**To:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

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**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

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**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Fri 11/17/2017 1:32:09 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Nancy,

Once we have the final documents, we will take one final look at them and if everything looks good we will post it. I would like to post it by no later than Wednesday morning. Thanks, Jody

*Jody Gosnell  
Contracting Officer/Team Leader  
Headquarters Procurement Operations Division  
Office of Acquisition Management  
Office: (202) 564-4353  
Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

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**Cc:** McCluney, Lance[McCluney.Lance@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Fri 11/17/2017 1:30:20 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Michael,

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Jody

*Jody Gosnell*  
*Contracting Officer/Team Leader*  
*Headquarters Procurement Operations Division*  
*Office of Acquisition Management*  
*Office: (202) 564-4353*  
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**Cc:** McCluney, Lance <McCluney.Lance@epa.gov>  
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**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Thur 11/16/2017 7:24:11 PM  
**Subject:** Hard File for PR-OA-17-00132 in Jody's box

Hard file contents:

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

New Inputs

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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**To:** Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]; Lynn, Tricia[lynn.tricia@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** McCluney, Lance[McCluney.Lance@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thur 11/16/2017 7:15:04 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Thanks

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

---

**From:** Quarles, Michael  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2017 2:10 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Lynn, Tricia <lynn.tricia@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** McCluney, Lance <McCluney.Lance@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Nancy,

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Have a great day,

Michael G. Quarles  
Acquisitions and Assistance Manager  
Office of Administrative and Executive Services  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
Mail Code 6202A  
(202) 343-9970

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**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2017 1:43 PM  
**To:** Lynn, Tricia <lynn.tricia@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Quarles, Michael <Quarles.Michael@epa.gov>; Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

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Contract Specialist

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HPOD/Program Contract Service Center

Washington, DC 20460

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**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2017 11:48 AM

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**Cc:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

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Thanks everyone!

--Tricia

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**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Michael

Thank you.

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

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**Sent:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hello,

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Have a great day,

Michael G. Quarles  
Acquisitions and Assistance Manager  
Office of Administrative and Executive Services  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
Mail Code 6202A  
(202) 343-9970

---

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**Sent:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 9:31 AM  
**To:** Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

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Thanks all

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 9:30 AM  
**To:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
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**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Lynn, Tricia  
**Sent:** Thur 11/16/2017 3:06:55 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC  
[JOFOC.TL.11.16.17.docx](#)

All—

Here's the updated JOFOC. **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Best,

Tricia

---

**From:** Lynn, Tricia  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Quarles, Michael <Quarles.Michael@epa.gov>; Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

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**Cc:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

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**Sent:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 11:44 AM

**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>  
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Acquisitions and Assistance Manager  
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**Office of Public Affairs**  
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Personal Phone / Ex. 6

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**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Quarles, Michael  
**Sent:** Mon 11/13/2017 4:49:06 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Thank you Tricia.

Have a great day,

Michael G. Quarles  
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**To:** Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Quarles, Michael <Quarles.Michael@epa.gov>; Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
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Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

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**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Lynn, Tricia  
**Sent:** Mon 11/13/2017 4:47:59 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC  
[SOW.Final.11.08.17.docx](#)

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**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
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[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

**To:** Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia[lynn.tricia@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tue 10/24/2017 3:51:37 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Media Contract contact info

Thanks

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6** **(mobile)**

---

**From:** Quarles, Michael  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017 11:41 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia <lynn.tricia@epa.gov>; Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
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Have a great day,

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(202) 343-9970

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017 11:20 AM  
**To:** Quarles, Michael <Quarles.Michael@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Lynn, Tricia <lynn.tricia@epa.gov>; Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Media Contract contact info

Hi Michael,

Per your request:

Definers Public Affairs

Address: 1500 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209  
Phone: (571) 312-3138

Website: <https://www.definersdc.com/services>

Joe Pounder, President  
Tel: 571-290-5461

jpounder@definerscorp.com

Julia Cotrone, Special Assistant

Tel: 571-290-5461

jcotrone@definerscorp.com

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**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia[lynn.tricia@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Quarles, Michael  
**Sent:** Tue 10/24/2017 3:41:28 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Media Contract contact info

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US Environmental Protection Agency  
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**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tue 10/24/2017 3:19:54 PM  
**Subject:** Media Contract contact info

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Address: 1500 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209  
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Website: <https://www.definersdc.com/services>

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**(mobile)**

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Fri 10/20/2017 10:52:32 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: SOW and JOFOC for OPA Media Services  
[Sole Source JOFOC OA \(003\) 082517 \(002\).docx](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Sole Source JOFOC OA \(003\) 082517 \(002\).docx](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)

Sent from my iPhone  
On metro - Need to start call at 715

Thx ng  
Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Grantham, Nancy" <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** October 19, 2017 at 5:44:00 PM EDT  
**To:** "Dews, Donna" <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>, "Gosnell, Jody" <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>, "Quarles, Michael" <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Grantham, Nancy" <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** SOW and JOFOC for OPA Media Services

Hi Jody and Donna,

Attached are cleaned up versions of what we discussed in our previous meeting. Unfortunately I was not able to decipher some of Jody's notes that Donna scanned to me.

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks so much for your help.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

**(mobile)**

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2017 2:20 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** SOW Media Clips 7-10-17 jgrev82517 (1) (002).docx

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Wed 10/4/2017 11:32:17 AM  
**Subject:** RE: checking in when we can get together on the definers newsclip procurement/contract this week

Thanks, donna.

Unfortunately I have a standing 8:30 meeting with the acting deputy administrator every morning – would 1 or 2 p.m. today work for you and jody?

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 03, 2017 2:49 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Quarles, Michael <Quarles.Michael@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: checking in when we can get together on the definers newsclip procurement/contract this week

Hi Nancy

We would be glad to speak with you. The system is down all week, so we cannot get into EAS. We were thinking about 8:30 tomorrow. How does that look for you? Thank you.

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 03, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** checking in when we can get together on the definers newsclip procurement/contract this week

Now that vendor has SAM certification – team here is anxious to get this in place – and I need to know what is left open to resolve to get this contract awarded.

Thanks ng

Nancy Grantham  
Office of Public Affairs  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
202-564-6879 (desk)  
Personal Phone / Ex. 6 mobile)

**To:** Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tue 10/3/2017 3:27:27 PM  
**Subject:** checking in when we can get together on the definers newsclip procurement/contract this week

Now that vendor has SAM certification – team here is anxious to get this in place – and I need to know what is left open to resolve to get this contract awarded.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

(mobile)

**To:** Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Fri 9/29/2017 11:44:11 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Definers -- screenshot of SAM registration

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**





&lt; Back

7 Messages

Definers -- Clips



# We're fully registered...

## Registration Details for Complete Record

**Entity Name: DEFINERS CORP**

DUNS Number: 076234313

CAGE: 7YAE9

Address:

1500 WILSON BLVD # 5

ARLINGTON, VA 22209-2458

UNITED STATES

Purpose of Registration: All Awards

Registration Status: Active

Expiration Date: 08/31/2018

Address Update Required: No

UPDATE ENTITY

VIEW

DEACTIVATE

# On Thu, Sep 28, 2017 at 3:29

**PM Wilcox, John**



**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Fri 9/29/2017 11:30:08 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

Hi Nancy,

That's awesome. We can discuss next week. Both Donna and I are off today. Jody

*Jody Gosnell  
Contracting Officer/Team Leader  
Headquarters Procurement Operations Division  
Office of Acquisition Management  
Office: (202) 564-4353  
Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 6:34 PM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Definers -- Clips

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**mobile)**

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 6:27 PM  
**To:** Joe Pounder <[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers -- Clips

Great. Adding Nancy and Liz.

On Sep 28, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Joe Pounder <[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)> wrote:

We're fully registered...

<Screen Shot 2017-09-28 at 4.23.59 PM.png>

On Thu, Sep 28, 2017 at 3:29 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

HI –

Working with contracts on this – here is the remaining issue that the contracting officer brought to me yesterday --

Specifically, the vendor is not registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). In order for any vendor to receive a contract from the federal government, they must be registered in this system. The vendor seems to be reluctant to register.

George had been working with the vendor on this. I have a call into the vendor as they may need assistance in completing the forms.

Will update you as soon as I hear from the vendor.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:02 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers -- Clips  
**Importance:** High

Where are we on this and when can we get this going? Today is a day where we could really use their help capturing clips in real time. This is very important and our wait and the process to do this has been way too long. Thank you!

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

--  
Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**To:** Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thur 9/28/2017 10:34:20 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Definers -- Clips

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 6:27 PM  
**To:** Joe Pounder <jpounder@definerscorp.com>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Definers -- Clips

Great. Adding Nancy and Liz.

On Sep 28, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Joe Pounder <jpounder@definerscorp.com> wrote:

We're fully registered...

<Screen Shot 2017-09-28 at 4.23.59 PM.png>

On Thu, Sep 28, 2017 at 3:29 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Definers -- Clips

HI –

Working with contracts on this – here is the remaining issue that the contracting officer brought to me yesterday --

Specifically, the vendor is not registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). In order for any vendor to receive a contract from the federal government, they must be registered in this system. The vendor seems to be reluctant to register.

George had been working with the vendor on this. I have a call into the vendor as they may need assistance in completing the forms.

Will update you as soon as I hear from the vendor.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6** **mobile)**

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:02 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers -- Clips  
**Importance:** High

Where are we on this and when can we get this going? Today is a day where we could really use their help capturing clips in real time. This is very important and our wait and the process to do this has been way too long. Thank you!

Jahan Wilcox  
EPA  
Strategic Communications Advisor  
Work Cell: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
Work Email: [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)

--

Joe Pounder  
[jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com)  
571-290-5460

**To:** Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Legare, Pamela  
**Sent:** Wed 9/20/2017 10:52:03 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: JOFOC for Media Support Contract - PR-OA-17-00132  
Sole Source JOFOC OA (003) 082517.docx  
ATT00001.htm

Hi Jody and Donna,

Can you please provide the status of the subject PR?

Pamela D. Legare, Deputy Director  
Office of Acquisition Management (OAM)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Room # 61234  
Mail Stop: 3801R  
Washington, DC 20460  
(202) 564-4310 (Phone)  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

 (Mobile)  
(202) 565-2475 (FAX)  
Email: [legare.pamela@epa.gov](mailto:legare.pamela@epa.gov)  
Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Grantham, Nancy" <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** September 20, 2017 at 6:47:29 AM EDT  
**To:** "Legare, Pamela" <[Legare.Pamela@epa.gov](mailto:Legare.Pamela@epa.gov)>, "Stewart, Keith" <[Stewart.Keith@epa.gov](mailto:Stewart.Keith@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Grantham, Nancy" <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: JOFOC for Media Support Contract - PR-OA-17-00132

Hi Pam and Keith,

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 6:36 PM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** JOFOC for Media Support Contract

Jody,

I've attached a revised version of the Justification for Other than Full and Open Competition for the media support

contract OPA is seeking.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks, George



**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Sun 9/17/2017 2:13:53 PM  
**Subject:** FW: JOFOC for Media Support Contract  
Sole Source JOFOC OA (003) 082517.docx

Hi – 

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 6:36 PM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** JOFOC for Media Support Contract

Jody,

I’ve attached a revised version of the Justification for Other than Full and Open Competition for the media support contract OPA is seeking. I have tried to address your earlier comments. Please let me know if you see any deficiencies in the information provided. Note that I have asked 

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

 Thanks, George

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Mon 8/14/2017 8:44:58 PM  
**Subject:** Media Clips Contract

Donna,

I spoke with a Definers representative this evening. Can you and I jump on the phone with them at 10:30 tomorrow morning? This would give you a chance to ask them directly for any additional information. Thanks, George

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Sat 9/9/2017 1:20:51 PM  
**Subject:** FW: JOFOC for Media Support Contract  
Sole Source JOFOC OA (003) 082517.docx

Donna,

This is the latest version I have. **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** Jody

*Jody Gosnell*  
*Contracting Officer/Team Leader*  
*Headquarters Procurement Operations Division*  
*Office of Acquisition Management*  
*Office: (202) 564-4353*  
*Email: gosnell.jody@epa.gov*

---

**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 6:36 PM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** JOFOC for Media Support Contract

Jody,

I've attached a revised version of the Justification for Other than Full and Open Competition for the media support contract OPA is seeking. I have tried to address your earlier comments. Please let me know if you see any deficiencies in the information provided. Note that I have asked **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** Thanks, George

**To:** Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Tue 8/29/2017 10:36:26 PM  
**Subject:** JOFOC for Media Support Contract  
Sole Source JOFOC OA (003) 082517.docx

Jody,

I’ve attached a revised version of the Justification for Other than Full and Open Competition for the media support contract OPA is seeking. I have tried to address your earlier comments. Please let me know if you see any deficiencies in the information provided.

Note that I have asked: **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Thanks, George

**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Thur 3/22/2018 1:18:38 PM  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Personal Matters / Ex. 6

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122.

Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*  
Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov

**From:** Brown, Rayna  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2018 6:40 AM  
**To:** Marusak, Kirk <Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hello Kirk,

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thank you and stay safe and warm! \*

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/Pre-Award Solutions Team  
(202) 564.6025 Office

**From:** Marusak, Kirk

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018 4:28 PM

**To:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 Please let me know. Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*

Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
[Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov](mailto:Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov)

**To:** Marusak, Kirk[Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Brown, Rayna  
**Sent:** Thur 3/22/2018 10:39:54 AM  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hello Kirk,

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thank you and stay safe and warm! \*

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/Pre-Award Solutions Team  
(202) 564.6025 Office

---

**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018 4:28 PM  
**To:** Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Please let me know. Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*  
Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
[Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov](mailto:Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov)

**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Tue 3/20/2018 8:28:22 PM  
**Subject:** FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email  
Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Please let me know. Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*  
Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov



**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Tue 3/20/2018 6:19:02 PM  
**Subject:** FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

I need a copy of all email messages between you and any other individuals within OAM and/or outside OAM that discuss terminating the Definers contract or Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025. I know that Modification 1 issued under the respective purchase order terminated the procurement. I need these email messages as quickly as possible. Raoul needs to sign OAM's FOIA response letter, which include all requested documents, no later than Friday, March 30, 2018. However, Raoul also wants to peer review the entire FOIA package at least 2 days before the due date (Wednesday, March 28, 2018).

You can email the messages to me or you can make copies of them. Then, I will scan and email them to myself. Either way is fine with me. Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*

Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov]  
**From:** Brown, Rayna  
**Sent:** Tue 12/26/2017 9:39:27 PM  
**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Hello Nancy,

I hope you had a nice weekend. The funds have already been de-obligated and as I recall I was able to confirm this in Compass Data Warehouse. Also, the GAO protest of this action was dismissed by GAO last week after our attorney indicated corrective action would be taken. Please let me know if you have any further questions. Have a nice day!

Sent from my iPhone

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC  
(202) 564.6025 Office  
On Dec 26, 2017, at 4:24 PM, Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks .. please let us know when this is complete – as we would

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Brown, Rayna

**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:43 PM

**To:** Julia Cotrone <**Personal Email / Ex. 6**>

**Cc:** Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Scott Cotter <**Personal Email / Ex. 6**>

**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response. I will generate a final bilateral modification to definitize Definers Corp's decision and will get it to you as quickly as possible. This forthcoming modification will serve as the final step and we can close this out. I will be in contact with you soon. Have a nice day.

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC

Sent from my iPhone

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC  
(202) 564.6025 Office

On Dec 21, 2017, at 11:01 AM, Julia Cotrone <jcotrone@definerscorp.com> wrote:

Hi

I had sent the email below yesterday but am having difficulty finding in my email so I just wanted to resend to make sure you have and are aware.

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

Thanks

On Dec 20, 2017, at 11:45 AM, Julia Cotrone <[REDACTED] wrote:

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov> wrote:

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response and returning the signed subject modification. In terms of additional steps necessary to officially end the process will involve whether or not Definers Corp wants to assert its rights under FAR 52.212-4 (l) terms and conditions—see an excerpt of the applicable clause language below. If Definers Corp is seeking, as a matter of its right, the payment of money arising under or relating to this purchase order and termination, then please submit in writing to me as the Contracting Officer with a level of detail consistent with the FAR 52.212-4 and sufficient for a Contracting Officer to determine that the costs were fair, reasonable, allowable, allocable and the facts justify the requested recovery of costs in a termination settlement (e.g. demonstrates that all reasonable steps were taken to minimize the incurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order). A final bilateral modification will be issued to definitize this aspect of the termination even if Definers Corp indicates that no costs will be claimed under the order and/or pursuant to the termination.

Please notify me of Definer Corp's intent regarding this matter and the Government will act accordingly. Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Thank you kindly and have a great day!

#### **FAR 52.212-4 Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items.**

(l) **Termination for the Government's convenience.** The Government reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, **the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Government using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the**

**termination.** The Contractor shall not be required to comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give the Government any right to audit the Contractor's records. **The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.**

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

**From:** Julia Cotrone [mailto: ] **Personal Email / Ex. 6**  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:09 PM  
**To:** Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** **Personal Email / Ex. 6** Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Scott Cotter <scotter@definerscorp.com>  
**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Attached is signed copy of PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ (7 pages). See page 2 for signature as requested.

Please let us know if there are any additional steps we need to take on our end to complete this process. Otherwise please let us know when this process is 100% completed.

Thank you!

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:47 PM, Julia Cotrone < **Personal Email / Ex. 6** > wrote:

Received

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov> wrote:

**Contractor:** Definers Corp

**Purchase Order No.:** EP-18-H-000025

**Purchase Order Modification No.:** P00001

**Purchase Order Title:** News Analysis Service

**Subject:** Unilateral Modification No. P00001

Please find attached modification P00001 to purchase order no. EP-18-H-000025 in order to cancel/terminate this order in its entirety via a Termination for the Government's Convenience effective December 19, 2017 and per the Contracting Officer's (CO's) conversation with Julia Cotrone with Definers Corp this morning. The Contractor shall immediately acknowledge receipt of this modification via email (please **DO NOT** include Group DDC-Customer) upon receipt of this email and correspondence and provide the signed page 2 of 7 to [brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov) and [dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:dews.donna@epa.gov) within two (2) business days. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you and have a nice day! ☺

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

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**Julia Cotrone**

O: [571.290.5461](tel:571.290.5461) | C: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

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**Julia Cotrone**

O: [571.290.5461](tel:571.290.5461) | C: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

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**Julia Cotrone**

O: [571.290.5461](tel:571.290.5461) | C: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tue 12/26/2017 9:24:08 PM  
**Subject:** RE: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Thanks .. please let us know when this is complete – as we would

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**

**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

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**From:** Brown, Rayna

**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:43 PM

**To:** Julia Cotrone <**Personal Email / Ex. 6**>

**Cc:** Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Scott Cotter <**Personal Email / Ex. 6**>

**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response. I will generate a final bilateral modification to definitize Definers Corp's decision and will get it to you as quickly as possible. This forthcoming modification will serve as the final step and we can close this out. I will be in contact with you soon. Have a nice day.

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC

Sent from my iPhone

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC  
(202) 564.6025 Office

On Dec 21, 2017, at 11:01 AM, Julia Cotrone <**Personal Email / Ex. 6**> wrote:

Hi

I had sent the email below yesterday but am having difficulty finding in my email so I just wanted to resend to make sure you have and are aware.

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

Thanks

On Dec 20, 2017, at 11:45 AM, Julia Cotrone <**Personal Email / Ex. 6**> wrote:

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response and returning the signed subject modification. In terms of additional steps necessary to officially end the process will involve whether or not Definers Corp wants to assert its rights under FAR 52.212-4 (I) terms and conditions—see an excerpt of the applicable clause language below. If Definers Corp is seeking, as a matter of its right, the payment of money arising under or relating to this purchase order and termination, then please submit in writing to me as the Contracting Officer with a level of detail consistent with the FAR 52.212-4 and sufficient for a Contracting Officer to determine that the costs were fair, reasonable, allowable, allocable and the facts justify the requested recovery of costs in a termination settlement (e.g. demonstrates that all reasonable steps were taken to minimize the incurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order). A final bilateral modification will be issued to definitize this aspect of the termination even if Definers Corp indicates that no costs will be claimed under the order and/or pursuant to the termination.

Please notify me of Definer Corp's intent regarding this matter and the Government will act accordingly. Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Thank you kindly and have a great day!

**FAR 52.212-4 Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items.**

(I) **Termination for the Government's convenience.** The Government reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, **the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Government using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the termination.** The Contractor shall not be required to comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give the Government any right to audit the Contractor's records. **The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.**

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

**From:** Julia Cotrone [mailto:[jcotrone@epa.gov](mailto:jcotrone@epa.gov)] **Personal Email / Ex. 6**

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:09 PM

**To:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>

Cc: **Personal Email / Ex. 6** Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Scott Cotter <[scott.cotter@epa.gov](mailto:scott.cotter@epa.gov)>  
Subject: Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT] **Personal Email / Ex. 6**

Attached is signed copy of PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ (7 pages). See page 2 for signature as requested.

Please let us know if there are any additional steps we need to take on our end to complete this process. Otherwise please let us know when this process is 100% completed.

Thank you!

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:47 PM, Julia Cotrone <**Personal Email / Ex. 6**> wrote:

Received

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Contractor:** Definers Corp

**Purchase Order No.:** EP-18-H-000025

**Purchase Order Modification No.:** P00001

**Purchase Order Title:** News Analysis Service

**Subject:** Unilateral Modification No. P00001

Please find attached modification P00001 to purchase order no. EP-18-H-000025 in order to cancel/terminate this order in its entirety via a Termination for the Government's Convenience effective December 19, 2017 and per the Contracting Officer's (CO's) conversation with Julia Cotrone with Definers Corp this morning. The Contractor shall immediately acknowledge receipt of this modification via email (please **DO NOT** include Group DDC-Customer) upon receipt of this email and correspondence and provide the signed page 2 of 7 to [brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov) and [dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:dews.donna@epa.gov) within two (2) business days. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you and have a nice day! ☺

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

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**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

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**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**To:** Julia Cotrone[jcotrone@definercorp.com]  
**Cc:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Scott Cotter[scotter@definercorp.com]  
**From:** Brown, Rayna  
**Sent:** Thur 12/21/2017 8:42:48 PM  
**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response. I will generate a final bilateral modification to definitize Definers Corp's decision and will get it to you as quickly as possible. This forthcoming modification will serve as the final step and we can close this out. I will be in contact with you soon. Have a nice day.

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC

Sent from my iPhone  
Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC  
(202) 564.6025 Office

On Dec 21, 2017, at 11:01 AM, Julia Cotrone <jcotrone@definercorp.com> wrote:

Hi

I had sent the email below yesterday but am having difficulty finding in my email so I just wanted to resend to make sure you have and are aware.

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

Thanks

On Dec 20, 2017, at 11:45 AM, Julia Cotrone <jcotrone@definercorp.com> wrote:

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov> wrote:

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response and returning the signed subject modification. In terms of additional steps necessary to officially end the process will involve whether or not Definers Corp wants to assert its rights under FAR 52.212-4 (l) terms and conditions—see an excerpt of the applicable clause language below. If Definers Corp is seeking, as a matter of its right, the payment of money arising under or relating to this purchase order and termination, then please submit in writing to me as the Contracting Officer with a level of detail consistent with the FAR 52.212-4 and sufficient for a Contracting Officer to determine that the costs were fair, reasonable, allowable, allocable and the facts justify the requested recovery of costs in a termination settlement (e.g. demonstrates that all reasonable steps were taken to minimize the incurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order). A final

bilateral modification will be issued to definitize this aspect of the termination even if Definers Corp indicates that no costs will be claimed under the order and/or pursuant to the termination.

Please notify me of Definer Corp's intent regarding this matter and the Government will act accordingly. Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Thank you kindly and have a great day!

**FAR 52.212-4 Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items.**

(I) **Termination for the Government's convenience.** The Government reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, **the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Government using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the termination.** The Contractor shall not be required to comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give the Government any right to audit the Contractor's records. **The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.**

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

**From:** Julia Cotrone [mailto:[jcotrone@definerscorp.com](mailto:jcotrone@definerscorp.com)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:09 PM

**To:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** [jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com); Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Scott Cotter <[scotter@definerscorp.com](mailto:scotter@definerscorp.com)>

**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Attached is signed copy of PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ (7 pages). See page 2 for signature as requested.

Please let us know if there are any additional steps we need to take on our end to complete this process. Otherwise please let us know when this process is 100% completed.

Thank you!

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:47 PM, Julia Cotrone <[jcotrone@definerscorp.com](mailto:jcotrone@definerscorp.com)> wrote:

Received

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Contractor:** Definers Corp

**Purchase Order No.:** EP-18-H-000025

**Purchase Order Modification No.:** P00001

**Purchase Order Title:** News Analysis Service

**Subject:** Unilateral Modification No. P00001

Please find attached modification P00001 to purchase order no. EP-18-H-000025 in order to cancel/terminate this order in its entirety via a Termination for the Government's Convenience effective December 19, 2017 and per the Contracting Officer's (CO's) conversation with Julia Cotrone with Definers Corp this morning. The Contractor shall immediately acknowledge receipt of this modification via email (please **DO NOT** include Group DDC-Customer) upon receipt of this email and correspondence and provide the signed page 2 of 7 to [brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov) and [dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:dews.donna@epa.gov) within two (2) business days. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you and have a nice day! ☺

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: [571.290.5461](tel:571.290.5461) | C: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Long, Brian[Long.Brian@epa.gov]  
**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Mon 3/26/2018 1:36:04 PM  
**Subject:** Important - FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

I need you to email me those email messages described in the message below. However, I have not received anything from either one of you. I have been waiting about 6 calendar days for the email messages. Thus, I need you to provide them to me today (3-26-18) so I can review and redact them. The FOIA requests identified above are due on Friday, March 30, 2018, which is this week. Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*

Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov

---

**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018 2:19 PM  
**To:** Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

I need a copy of all email messages between you and any other individuals within OAM and/or outside OAM that discuss terminating the Definers contract or Purchase Order EP-18-H-000025. I know that Modification 1 issued under the respective purchase order terminated the procurement. I need these email messages as quickly as possible. Raoul needs to sign OAM's FOIA response letter, which include all requested documents, no later than Friday, March 30, 2018. However, Raoul also wants to peer review the entire FOIA package at least 2 days before the due date (Wednesday, March 28, 2018).

You can email the messages to me or you can make copies of them. Then, I will scan and email them to myself. Either way is fine with me. Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*

Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov

**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Scott Cotter[scotter@definercorp.com]  
**From:** Julia Cotrone  
**Sent:** Thur 12/21/2017 4:00:16 PM  
**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Hi

I had sent the email below yesterday but am having difficulty finding in my email so I just wanted to resend to make sure you have and are aware.

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

Thanks

On Dec 20, 2017, at 11:45 AM, Julia Cotrone <jcotrone@definercorp.com> wrote:

Definers will not seek payment or assert our rights under FAR 52.212-4

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov> wrote:

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response and returning the signed subject modification. In terms of additional steps necessary to officially end the process will involve whether or not Definers Corp wants to assert its rights under FAR 52.212-4 (l) terms and conditions—see an excerpt of the applicable clause language below. If Definers Corp is seeking, as a matter of its right, the payment of money arising under or relating to this purchase order and termination, then please submit in writing to me as the Contracting Officer with a level of detail consistent with the FAR 52.212-4 and sufficient for a Contracting Officer to determine that the costs were fair, reasonable, allowable, allocable and the facts justify the requested recovery of costs in a termination settlement (e.g. demonstrates that all reasonable steps were taken to minimize the incurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order). A final bilateral modification will be issued to definitize this aspect of the termination even if Definers Corp indicates that no costs will be claimed under the order and/or pursuant to the termination.

Please notify me of Definer Corp's intent regarding this matter and the Government will act accordingly. Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Thank you kindly and have a great day!

#### **FAR 52.212-4 Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items.**

**(l) Termination for the Government's convenience.** The Government reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, **the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Government using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the termination.** The Contractor shall not be required to comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give the Government any right to audit the Contractor's records. **The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.**

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

**From:** Julia Cotrone [mailto:[jcotrone@definercorp.com](mailto:jcotrone@definercorp.com)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:09 PM

**To:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** [jpounder@definercorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definercorp.com); Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Scott Cotter <[scotter@definercorp.com](mailto:scotter@definercorp.com)>

**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Attached is signed copy of PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ (7 pages). See page 2 for signature as requested.

Please let us know if there are any additional steps we need to take on our end to complete this process. Otherwise please let us know when this process is 100% completed.

Thank you!

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:47 PM, Julia Cotrone <[jcotrone@definercorp.com](mailto:jcotrone@definercorp.com)> wrote:

Received

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Contractor:** Definers Corp

**Purchase Order No.:** EP-18-H-000025

**Purchase Order Modification No.:** P00001

**Purchase Order Title:** News Analysis Service

**Subject:** Unilateral Modification No. P00001

Please find attached modification P00001 to purchase order no. EP-18-H-000025 in order to cancel/terminate this order in its entirety via a Termination for the Government's Convenience effective December 19, 2017 and per the Contracting Officer's (CO's) conversation with Julia Cotrone with Definers Corp this morning. The Contractor shall immediately acknowledge receipt of this modification via email (please **DO NOT** include Group DDC-Customer) upon receipt of this email and correspondence and provide the signed page 2 of 7 to [brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov) and [dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:dews.donna@epa.gov) within two (2) business days. Let me know if you have any questions.



Thank you and have a nice day! ☺

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Thur 3/22/2018 2:16:17 PM  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Thank you, Donna.

*Kirk R. Marusak*  
Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2018 9:52 AM  
**To:** Marusak, Kirk <Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov>; Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi Kirk/Rayna

I will get you the emails of your request. There are 2 other parties that have emails regarding this matter:

Jody Gosnell, CO  
Jessica Wilson, CO

Donna Dews

---

**From:** Marusak, Kirk  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2018 9:18:38 AM  
**To:** Brown, Rayna; Dews, Donna  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

|                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Deliberative Process / Ex. 5</b> | <b>Personal Matters / Ex. 6</b> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122.

Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*

Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
[Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov](mailto:Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Brown, Rayna

**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2018 6:40 AM

**To:** Marusak, Kirk <[Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov](mailto:Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hello Kirk,

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thank you and stay safe

and warm! 💎

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/Pre-Award Solutions Team  
(202) 564.6025 Office

---

**From:** Marusak, Kirk

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018 4:28 PM

**To:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** FOIA Requests EPA-HQ-2018-002788 and EPA-HQ-2018-003122 - Name and Email Address Contained in Email Messages - Need Your Response - Thank You

Hi, Rayna and Donna,

## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Please let me know. Thank you.

*Kirk R. Marusak*

Government Information Specialist  
Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 564-4493  
Fax: (202) 564-2553  
[Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov](mailto:Marusak.Kirk@epa.gov)

**To:** Julia Cotrone[jcotrone@definercorp.com]  
**Cc:** jpounder@definercorp.com[jpounder@definercorp.com]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Scott Cotter[scotter@definercorp.com]  
**From:** Brown, Rayna  
**Sent:** Wed 12/20/2017 3:45:41 AM  
**Subject:** RE: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]  
[EPA Definers Page 2 signed.pdf](#)

Hello Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response and returning the signed subject modification. In terms of additional steps necessary to officially end the process will involve whether or not Definers Corp wants to assert its rights under FAR 52.212-4 (I) terms and conditions—see an excerpt of the applicable clause language below. If Definers Corp is seeking, as a matter of its right, the payment of money arising under or relating to this purchase order and termination, then please submit in writing to me as the Contracting Officer with a level of detail consistent with the FAR 52.212-4 and sufficient for a Contracting Officer to determine that the costs were fair, reasonable, allowable, allocable and the facts justify the requested recovery of costs in a termination settlement (e.g. demonstrates that all reasonable steps were taken to minimize the incurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order). A final bilateral modification will be issued to definitize this aspect of the termination even if Definers Corp indicates that no costs will be claimed under the order and/or pursuant to the termination.

Please notify me of Definer Corp's intent regarding this matter and the Government will act accordingly. Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Thank you kindly and have a great day!

**FAR 52.212-4 Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items.**

**(I) Termination for the Government's convenience.** The Government reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, **the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Government using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the termination.** The Contractor shall not be required to comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give the Government any right to audit the Contractor's records. **The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.**

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC

**From:** Julia Cotrone [mailto:jcotrone@definercorp.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:09 PM  
**To:** Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** jpounder@definercorp.com; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Scott Cotter <scotter@definercorp.com>  
**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Attached is signed copy of PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ (7 pages). See page 2 for signature as requested. Please let us know if there are any additional steps we need to take on our end to complete this process. Otherwise please let us know when this process is 100% completed.

Thank you!

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:47 PM, Julia Cotrone <jcotrone@definercorp.com> wrote:  
Received

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <brown.rayna@epa.gov> wrote:  
**Contractor:** Definers Corp

**Purchase Order No.:** EP-18-H-000025  
**Purchase Order Modification No.:** P00001  
**Purchase Order Title:** News Analysis Service

**Subject:** Unilateral Modification No. P00001

Please find attached modification P00001 to purchase order no. EP-18-H-000025 in order to cancel/terminate this order in its entirety via a Termination for the Government's Convenience effective December 19, 2017 and per the Contracting Officer's (CO's) conversation with Julia Cotrone with Definers Corp this morning. The Contractor shall immediately acknowledge receipt of this modification via email (please **DO NOT** include Group DDC-Customer) upon receipt of this email and correspondence and provide the signed page 2 of 7 to [brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov) and [dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:dews.donna@epa.gov) within two (2) business days. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you and have a nice day! ☺

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: [571.290.5461](tel:571.290.5461) | C:

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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**Julia Cotrone**

O: [571.290.5461](tel:571.290.5461) | C:

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** jpounder@definerscorp.com[jpounder@definerscorp.com]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Scott Cotter[scotter@definerscorp.com]  
**From:** Julia Cotrone  
**Sent:** Wed 12/20/2017 12:08:34 AM  
**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]  
[EPA Definers Page 2 signed.pdf](#)

Attached is signed copy of PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ (7 pages). See page 2 for signature as requested. Please let us know if there are any additional steps we need to take on our end to complete this process. Otherwise please let us know when this process is 100% completed.

Thank you!

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:47 PM, Julia Cotrone <[jcotrone@definerscorp.com](mailto:jcotrone@definerscorp.com)> wrote:

Received

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Contractor:** Definers Corp

**Purchase Order No.:** EP-18-H-000025

**Purchase Order Modification No.:** P00001

**Purchase Order Title:** News Analysis Service

**Subject:** Unilateral Modification No. P00001

Please find attached modification P00001 to purchase order no. EP-18-H-000025 in order to cancel/terminate this order in its entirety via a Termination for the Government's Convenience effective December 19, 2017 and per the Contracting Officer's (CO's) conversation with Julia Cotrone with Definers Corp this morning. The Contractor shall immediately acknowledge receipt of this modification via email (please **DO NOT** include Group DDC-Customer) upon receipt of this email and correspondence and provide the signed page 2 of 7 to [brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov) and [dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:dews.donna@epa.gov) within two (2) business days. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you and have a nice day! ☺

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown

Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

OAM/HPOD/PCSC

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

--

**Julia Cotrone**

O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6



**To:** Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** jpounder@definerscorp.com[jpounder@definerscorp.com]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Scott, Elaine[Scott.Elaïne@epa.gov]  
**From:** Julia Cotrone  
**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 9:47:15 PM  
**Subject:** Re: PO\_EP18H000025\_1\_HQ [URGENT]

Received  
On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Contractor:** Definers Corp  
  
**Purchase Order No.:** EP-18-H-000025  
  
**Purchase Order Modification No.:** P00001  
  
**Purchase Order Title:** News Analysis Service  
  
  
**Subject:** Unilateral Modification No. P00001

Please find attached modification P00001 to purchase order no. EP-18-H-000025 in order to cancel/terminate this order in its entirety via a Termination for the Government’s Convenience effective December 19, 2017 and per the Contracting Officer’s (CO’s) conversation with Julia Cotrone with Definers Corp this morning. The Contractor shall immediately acknowledge receipt of this modification via email (please **DO NOT** include Group DDC-Customer) upon receipt of this email and correspondence and provide the signed page 2 of 7 to [brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov) and [dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:dews.donna@epa.gov) within two (2) business days. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you and have a nice day! ☺

Kind regards,

Rayna Brown  
  
Service Center Manager, Contracting Officer  
  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)  
  
OAM/HPOD/PCSC

--  
**Julia Cotrone**  
O: 571.290.5461 | C: Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**To:** Stewart, Keith[Stewart.Keith@epa.gov]; Brown, Rayna[brown.rayna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilson, Jessica  
**Sent:** Tue 12/19/2017 3:04:26 PM  
**Subject:** Definers Corp

Rayan & Keith I wanted to forward this information on to you. **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

Kind Regards,

*Jessica V. Wilson*  
**Contracting Officer**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**OARM/OAM/HPOD/PCSC**  
Ronald Reagan Building #61178  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Mail Code: 3803R  
Washington, DC 20460  
Phone: 202-564-2504  
E-mail: [wilson.jessica@epa.gov](mailto:wilson.jessica@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Russ Choma [mailto:[rchoma@motherjones.com](mailto:rchoma@motherjones.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 3:59 PM  
**To:** Wilson, Jessica <[Wilson.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto:Wilson.Jessica@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Definers Corp

Hi Jessica,

My name is Russ Choma, I'm a reporter with *Mother Jones* magazine here in DC. I'm working on a story about an EPA contract with a company called Definers Corp. According to the contract's record, you are the "last modified user". I have a few questions I would like to ask – I can be reached at my office at 202.626.7253, or through the Signal app at: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**  
I appreciate any help you can give,

Thanks,

--  
Russ Choma  
Mother Jones  
[rchoma@motherjones.com](mailto:rchoma@motherjones.com)  
202.626.7253

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**From:** Russ Choma  
**Sent:** Mon 12/18/2017 8:57:48 PM  
**Subject:** Definers Corp

Hi Donna,

My name is Russ Choma, I'm a reporter with *Mother Jones* magazine here in DC. I'm working on a story about an EPA contract with a company called Definers Corp. According to the contract's record, you helped prepare the entry. I have a few questions I would like to ask – I can be reached at my office at 202.626.7253, or through the Signal app at Personal Phone / Ex. 6  
I appreciate any help you can give,

Thanks,

--  
Russ Choma  
Mother Jones  
[rchoma@motherjones.com](mailto:rchoma@motherjones.com)  
202.626.7253

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wilson, Jessica  
**Sent:** Wed 12/6/2017 8:24:47 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Documents Needed  
[Definers EPA Proposal.docx](#)

Hello Donna

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Let me know if you have any questions,

*Jessica V. Wilson*  
**Contracting Officer**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**OARM/OAM/HPOD/PCSC**  
Ronald Reagan Building #61178  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Mail Code: 3803R  
Washington, DC 20460  
Phone: 202-564-2504  
E-mail: [wilson.jessica@epa.gov](mailto:wilson.jessica@epa.gov)

**From:** Julia Cotrone [<mailto:jcotrone@definerscorp.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 3:11 PM  
**To:** Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** [jpounder@definerscorp.com](mailto:jpounder@definerscorp.com); Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Wilson, Jessica <[Wilson.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto:Wilson.Jessica@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Documents Needed

attached - please call my cell if you need any clarification or more detail.

Thanks!

On Tue, Dec 5, 2017 at 4:42 PM, Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)> wrote:  
Hi Ms. Cotrone,

Thank you for taking our call earlier on the urgent turnaround request. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests a revised work proposal and cost estimate to the revised statement of work in the attached. In the essence of time please forward the request no later than 3:00pm on Wednesday December 6, if not sooner.

Thank you

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
[202-564-6752](tel:202-564-6752) (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

--  
**Julia Cotrone**  
O: 571.290.5461 | C: 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**To:** Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** jpounder@definercorp.com[jpounder@definercorp.com]; Gosnell, Jody[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov]; Wilson, Jessica[Wilson.Jessica@epa.gov]  
**From:** Julia Cotrone  
**Sent:** Wed 12/6/2017 8:11:29 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Documents Needed  
Definers EPA Proposal.docx

attached - please call my cell if you need any clarification or more detail.  
Thanks!

On Tue, Dec 5, 2017 at 4:42 PM, Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Ms. Cotrone,

Thank you for taking our call earlier on the urgent turnaround request. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests a revised work proposal and cost estimate to the revised statement of work in the attached. In the essence of time please forward the request no later than 3:00pm on Wednesday December 6, if not sooner.

Thank you

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
Dews.donna@epa.gov

--  
**Julia Cotrone**  
O: 571.290.5461 | C 

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**To:** Stewart, Keith[Stewart.Keith@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Quarles, Michael[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov]; Dews, Donna[Dews.Donna@epa.gov]; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Wed 12/6/2017 1:20:17 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Thanks

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)

**From:** Stewart, Keith  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 8:18 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Quarles, Michael <Quarles.Michael@epa.gov>; Dews, Donna <Dews.Donna@epa.gov>; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena <Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Nancy

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Sent from my iPhone  
On Dec 6, 2017, at 8:13 AM, Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**

Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)

**From:** Quarles, Michael  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 05, 2017 1:30 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia <lynn.tricia@epa.gov>; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena <Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov>; McCluney, Lance <McCluney.Lance@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Nancy,

Just spoke with Keith about this matter. Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Keith is meeting with Donna and others to Definers for an updated quote right now. Deliberative Process / Ex. 5 I am reaching out to

Have a great day,

Michael G. Quarles  
Acquisitions and Assistance Manager  
Office of Administrative and Executive Services  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
Mail Code 6202A  
(202) 343-9970

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 05, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena <[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov](mailto:Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Good morning,

Do we have an update on this time sensitive matter?

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Monday, December 04, 2017 1:43 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena <[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov](mailto:Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi

I have met with Rayna Brown, Manager and we will get back to as soon as possible regarding this award.  
Thank you.

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Monday, December 04, 2017 8:50 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena <[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov](mailto:Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov)>

Good morning

I have meeting with Rayna Brown, Manager at 11:30aam regarding next steps after Special Notice was sent to public of intent to sole source:

Clarification from Manager:

- a) After special notice, which closes December 5, 2017 at 10:20am (dated posted 11/29/17) the post is for 5 days per Contracting Officer direction– Next action
- b) I have one capability statement and 2 emails coming against this being a sole source from companies-

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

## **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

- c) There is no updated quote (unless it was sent since our last meeting/conversation) that I received from Definers, Corp., I received a cost breakdown and disclosure of cost in Statement of Work – I will find out from Manager if this is adequate instead of a quote which was originally the request

After I find out whether **Deliberative Process / Ex. 5** If you have questions, please give me a call directly at 202-564-6752. Thank you.

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2017 6:53 PM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena <[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov](mailto:Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Thx

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 1, 2017, at 6:50 PM, Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)> wrote:



Hello All,

I apologize that you still have not received a response. I have not received an update on whether a request was ever submitted and/or received for an updated quote. However, during the last meeting we had, you asked what the next steps were and one of the next steps mentioned was once we received the final SOW from Tricia (which we did) Donna would need to request an updated quote from the vendor based on that revised SOW. In addition, prior to that meeting when we originally met to discuss the SOW because the original quote we received was basically a capability statement and it did not reference any parts of that SOW, it was stated then that the vendor would need to provide an updated or revised quote based on the any changes in the SOW. Hopefully, Donna can shed some light on whether she has already received the revised quote or an expected date on when she will receive the revised quote. Hope this helps. Jody

*Jody Gosnell  
Contracting Officer/Team Leader  
Headquarters Procurement Operations Division  
Office of Acquisition Management  
Office: (202) 564-4353  
Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2017 9:50 AM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena <[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov](mailto:Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi – we have not heard back on this – so are assuming that donna has in fact received what she needs from the vendor – and that if we do not have other vendors who reply to the notice, we will be able to proceed with awarding the contract.

Please let me know the date the 5 day posting expires.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  

Personal Phone / Ex. 6

**(mobile)**

---

**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Nancy,

Donna should already have received either an updated quote or a quote that reflects the revised SOW and that would be good for 30 or 60 days.

Donna can you verify if you have received the information from the vendor? Thanks, Jody

*Jody Gosnell  
Contracting Officer/Team Leader  
Headquarters Procurement Operations Division  
Office of Acquisition Management  
Office: (202) 564-4353  
Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2017 9:02 AM  
**To:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Right .. I thought they needed to submit a formal quote so wanted to make sure they knew they needed to do within the 5 days.

If that is not the case, that is fine.

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

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**From:** Lynn, Tricia  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2017 8:58 AM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Jody—

We still want to receive a quote from them to review their work and see that it meets our needs. We can do that, right?

--Tricia

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**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Nancy,

I am curious as to why you would need to send it to them. This is a public notice to make sure there are

no other vendors out there that can do it. If we don't get any responses then we will prepare the award and send that to the vendor. Typically we don't send it to them but since it is public record then if you want to you can. Jody

*Jody Gosnell*  
*Contracting Officer/Team Leader*  
*Headquarters Procurement Operations Division*  
*Office of Acquisition Management*  
*Office: (202) 564-4353*  
*Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

---

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2017 8:29 AM  
**To:** Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Rayna <[brown.rayna@epa.gov](mailto:brown.rayna@epa.gov)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Are we permitted to send to the potential contractor or will OAM do that?

Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

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**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Nancy

If you go [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov) and search by Environmental Protection Agency: Opportunities you will see Special Notice titled Media Support/News analysis service

[www.fedconnect.net](http://www.fedconnect.net) – public opportunities [Media Support/News analysis service](#)

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 11:53 AM  
**To:** Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Thanks much .. can you give us the link to the notice? Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

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**From:** Dews, Donna  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Nancy

Special notice posted today at 10:29am. today.

Donna Dews  
Contract Specialist  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Acquisition Management  
HPOD/Program Contract Service Center  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-6752 (DIRECT)  
[Dews.donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.donna@epa.gov)

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**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 11:50 AM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi .. do we have an update on this posting? Thanks ng

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 3:28 PM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Nancy,

She was working on a priority for Keith Stewart today. I just found out that she had some additional questions for me about what you all submitted but I have been having issues with my email today so I will provide her a response in the morning. Jody

*Jody Gosnell*  
*Contracting Officer/Team Leader*  
*Headquarters Procurement Operations Division*  
*Office of Acquisition Management*  
*Office: (202) 564-4353*  
*Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

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**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 7:51 AM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Thanks

**Nancy Grantham**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
**202-564-6879 (desk)**  
**Personal Phone / Ex. 6 (mobile)**

---

**From:** Gosnell, Jody  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi Nancy,

**Personal Matters / Ex. 6** and I did not receive a status update from her yesterday. I will follow up with you when she gets in this morning. Jody

*Jody Gosnell*  
*Contracting Officer/Team Leader*  
*Headquarters Procurement Operations Division*  
*Office of Acquisition Management*  
*Office: (202) 564-4353*  
*Email: [gosnell.jody@epa.gov](mailto:gosnell.jody@epa.gov)*

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**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 4:20 PM  
**To:** Gosnell, Jody <[Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov](mailto:Gosnell.Jody@epa.gov)>; Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>; Dews, Donna <[Dews.Donna@epa.gov](mailto:Dews.Donna@epa.gov)>; Quarles, Michael <[Quarles.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Quarles.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Docs for PR-OA-17-00132 NEWS SVC

Hi all –